Greetings!

On behalf of the WCU Honors College, I want to extend congratulations to you for the excellent record of academic achievement and involvement you are building at West Chester University. We offer you an opportunity to be reviewed for the Honors Seminar Program and become an active member of the Honors Student Association.

This program is designed for students such as yourself with a minimum of 30 hours of college level academic work and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25. The Honors College at WCU is built around the theme of Personal Leadership Development towards the end of service to the community. Successful candidates for this program are afforded all benefits extended to members of the Honors College who begin the program in their first semester, namely:

1) access to specially designed interdisciplinary courses
2) special recognition at commencement
3) eligibility to participate in international study (faculty & honors students go to South Africa in even numbered years)
4) enhanced scheduling

To complete the program, you must successfully complete a minimum of 12 hours of Honors course work at the 351 and above level and demonstrate active contributions and service to co-curricular elements of the campus community. Generally, a minimum of three 351-level or above courses are offered each semester. These are small group (15-24 students) seminar offerings that are interdisciplinary (I designation) with writing emphasis (W designation) and have no prerequisites. Completion of the courses would thus be registered on your official university transcript with the following codes: H (honors), I (interdisciplinary) and W (writing emphasis). In certain situations, these seminars may also meet major program requirements (for example, courses taught by Professors Nollen and Loedel allowed English and Political Science majors/minors—respectively—to meet upper-level elective requirements within those majors AND receive Honors credit.)

Review of applications occur in rotation in the order they are received. If accepted, you could have ability to schedule for possible openings in seminar courses.

You may also contact us through email (honors@wcupa.edu) or at the Honors office, 703 S. High Street, Room 203. Please enclose a wallet-sized, head and shoulders photograph with the application.

Congratulations again and we wish you continued academic success and leadership opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin W. Dean
Professor, Communication Studies
Director of Honors
703 S. High Street, Room 204
610-436-2996
West Chester University Honors College  
Honors Seminar Program  
Internal Student Application

(Print clearly)

Name: _______________________________  Date: ____________________________
First M. Last

WCU ID: ____________________________  WCU Email: ____________________________

Mobile Phone Number: ____________________________  Date of Expected WCU Graduation: ____________________________

Local Address: ________________________________________________________________
Number Street Apt. #
City State Zip

Major(s): ________________________________________________________________

Minor(s): ________________________________________________________________

Please **type** your responses to items 2, 3, & 4 on a separate sheet(s) and attach them to this form. Do not exceed the word limit.

1. **WCU students:** provide a *MyWCU* copy of course work thus far, (include your name and WCU ID on each page), verifying your completion of **between 30 and 60 credits** and a cumulative GPA in all college level course work of **3.25**. Please provide copies of transcripts from previous institutions.

2. Provide a **listing** of co-curricular activities (school & community) you have been involved with **over the past two years** and include dates of involvement. Where appropriate, please indicate any **leadership roles** played. Include your name and WCU ID on each page.

3. In an **essay** of 400-500 words, respond to these questions: **What is the most significant accomplishment you have made as a leader and/or through community service? What contribution did you make? What did you learn about yourself through this process?** Include your name and WCU ID on each page.

4. Carefully review the Honors College Philosophy Statement. A mission of the Honors College involves extending our leadership training and service commitment to the larger campus community. In a **paragraph** of 200 words, discuss how you might best help us attain this goal by networking/collaborating with a campus or community group. Include your name and WCU ID on each page.

**WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT**

The Honors College at West Chester University provides an inviting environment for academically gifted and highly motivated students to interact and form a learning community of peers, faculty, administrators, and staff that will challenge and enrich the students’ college experience. Grounded in the liberal arts tradition, the Honors College seeks cross-disciplinary connections in order to develop students’ natural intellectual abilities and challenges students to employ those gifts on behalf of the larger community. For this reason, the Honors College considers “honors” more than a matter of strong grades. It means using the gift of knowledge to be an active and creative problem solver in both the campus community and in the world. Honors is about building character and fostering a commitment to life learning that can develop the leaders of the 21st century.

5. Include with this application a wallet sized or head/shoulders photograph of yourself. *Your application will not be reviewed without it.*
Honors College Seminar Program - INTERNAL APPLICATION INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS

Applications for the spring term must be received by SEPTEMBER 1st.
Applications for the fall term must be received by JANUARY 14th.
Applications submitted in either semester after enhanced scheduling appointments have been set will not receive an enhanced appointment until the following term but successful candidates may sign up for seminars.

Mail completed form and attachments to:
Dr. Kevin W. Dean,
Director of Honors College
703 S. High Street
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383-2981

Student Requirements – To receive Honors Seminar Recognition, students need to complete a minimum of 12 hours of Honors course work at the 351 and above level and demonstrate active contributions and service to co-curricular elements of the campus community. Generally, we offer a minimum of three 351-level or above courses each semester. These are small group (15-24 students) seminar offerings that are cross-disciplinary and have no pre-requisites. Students may petition the Director, on special circumstances, to substitute an independent study for three hours of credit.

Admission – To be admitted to the Honors Seminar Program students must:
  a) have earned between 30 and 60 credits
  b) have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25
  c) submit this application to the Honors College; it will be reviewed and evaluated by the admissions committee of the Honors Council or their designee.

NOTE: as part of the application process, students must demonstrate active contributions and service to co-curricular elements of the campus community.

Retention – To remain in good standing, students must:
  a) maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25
  b) regularly schedule and complete Honors course offerings (a minimum of one course every two semesters) and
  c) actively participate in the co-curricular life of the campus community
  d) earn a minimum grade of C+ in all honors course work

Recognition for Seniors
  a) Students who complete the 351/452 level Honors courses will have an “H” designation for the work recorded on their transcripts
  b) A certificate of merit will be awarded upon completion of the minimum twelve hours at the annual spring Senior Seminar Medallion Ceremony.

Note to seniors: to receive a graduation medallion, you must have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher by the end of the semester prior to graduation & have successfully fulfilled honors college requirements with a C+ or higher. No exceptions!

Student Benefits – Full rights as “members in good standing” in the Honors Seminar Program include but are not limited to:
  a) small class sizes (generally 15-24 students)
  b) access to Honors staff and office as information and support center
  c) honors housing on seventh floor of Allegheny Hall
  d) qualification for Honors scholarship awards
  e) membership in the Honors Student Association
  f) opportunity to serve on the Honors Council and governance committees
  g) opportunity to participate in PASSHE International Summer Honors Programs
  h) enhanced scheduling

Should you have any questions, please contact the Honors College office: 703 S. High Street, West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383; 610-436-2996; e-mail: honors@wcupa.edu.