Honors-eligible students with outstanding academic records are automatically invited to the Honors Program upon admission to Saint Peter’s University. Incoming Honors students confirm their participation in the program before enrollment at the University. Honors students are exempt from the placement testing required from all other incoming students. Honors students enjoy dual advisement by a freshman/major advisor and the director of the Honors Program. Each semester for four years, Honors students are the first ones on campus to register for classes. In order to successfully graduate with Honors, students in the program need to complete a selection of Honors-designated courses, a Research Methods seminar and a Senior Thesis independent study.
Saint Peter’s University is known for its long history of academic excellence.

The Honors Program takes you even further by challenging you to perform at the highest academic level possible. Offered exclusively to students with outstanding academic promise, the Honors Program will immerse you in an innovative curriculum and individualized opportunities. If you want to go above and beyond what you ever expected in college, this is the place for you.

Honors Students Stand Out
Through classroom experiences, group activities, and individual advisement and instruction, Honors students are expected to:

- Form relationships with other students and mentors who share their interests and dedication to learning
- Learn to work effectively, both cooperatively and independently
- Develop strong communication skills
- Develop strong analytical and research skills
- Prepare for graduate or professional studies in a chosen field
- Commit to a process of lifelong learning

“Working with Honors students in specialized courses and on their senior theses creates an environment in which rigor and inspiration characterize the student-professor relationship. This gives Honors students a tremendous advantage in shaping their future careers and grad school paths.”

– Dr. Alexander Mirescu, Political Science

Honors Students Achieve

Research: Honors students also have the opportunity to work as paid Research Assistants to faculty members conducting professional research.

James M. ’10 devoted three years of research trying to duplicate the environment in which cells grow without causing genetic damage.

Cristina F. ’17 works with Dr. Jennifer Ayala on a research project that involves collecting and analyzing data on neighborhood change and Latin influences in the history of Bergenline Avenue in Jersey City.

Johannes G. ’16 assisted Dr. Gilkey with research for his Ph.D. dissertation, examining and analyzing the impact of the 2008 GFC post-recession on consumer behavior.

Susan R. ’16 works with Dr. Mirescu investigating conditions surrounding the democratization process of Tunisia.

Outcomes: Honors students continue to achieve excellence after graduation. Check out where some of our notable graduates are now applying their talents:

Jamie L. ’13 Producer, Sports Illustrated
Samik A. ’11 Masters in Public Administration/ International Development, Harvard University
Yanitsa T. ’13 Ph.D. candidate in Social Psychology, New York University
Ali H. ’13 Analyst, Goldman Sachs
Alexander N. ’08 Postdoc Researcher, Microsoft Research
Jeff K. ’08 Law Clerk, United States District Court

Sample Honors Courses

Art in the City
This Metropolitan Seminar incorporates visits to metropolitan art museums such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Cloisters, The Frick Collection, The Museum of Modern Art, The Guggenheim, and The Whitney. Students will survey the history of Western Art (mainly European and American), from prehistoric times up to the contemporary era.

Principles of Marketing
This course aims to equip the student with the relevant analytical tools and concepts necessary to apply the principles of marketing in the real world. It is a teamwork-oriented course which incorporates a service-learning approach to teaching and learning.

Space, Place and the City
The analysis of sacred or special spaces is a cutting-edge discipline within the field of theology. Sacred spaces and the rituals practiced in and around them provide a lens through which to better understand human perceptions of the holy. Students visit a number of such sacred places in the New York metropolitan area, which offer concrete examples by which to analyze the core of human religiousness and how it is expressed across multiple religious systems.

There is nothing quite like the opportunity to engage in unique Honors classes inside and outside of the classroom. Traveling to the locations which we discuss or analyze in class is the epitome of grasping a concept wholeheartedly.”

– Michelle P. ’15
Honors Theses

One of the most defining and symbolic aspects of the Honors Program is the Senior Honors thesis. During their last year, Honors students compose and defend in-depth research projects in their major fields, which prepare them for graduate school and their future careers. The Honors theses represent the culmination of students' hard work and are presented in front of the entire university community. Honors theses are stored in the Library's database for later access and research.

Check Out Some of the Theses Our Honors Students Have Done:

**Baseball: A Closer Look at the Home Field Advantage**
– Joseph J. ’12, Mathematics

**Edith Wharton: the Original Gossip Girl**
– Aimee S. ’14, English Literature

**A Study of In Vitro Reprogramming of Human Fibroblasts**
– Rezma S. ’10, Biochemistry

**What Makes a Person Attractive?**
– Jasmine A. ’15, Psychology

**Dowries in India: Their Impact on Families, Communities and the Economy**
– Sunita K. ’14, Business

**Not All Smoke & Mirrors: The Growth and Development of Magic During the Renaissance in Europe**
– Michelle D. ’13, History

**How Corruption Has Impacted Democratization in Chile and Argentina**
– Karla M. ’12, Political Science

**Music Therapy Improving the Quality of Pain Relief Methods in Pediatric Oncology Patients**
– Christina C. ’10, Nursing

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**Honors Students Build Community**

**Working as a tutor:** Honors students are encouraged to become GEMS (Getting Engaged in Mentoring Students): student mentors who build a community of engaged learners. GEMS serve as peer mentors, classroom helpers, study group facilitators, and liaisons to campus activities and events by fostering student engagement and building community. Honors students can also tutor in the Center for Advancement of Learning and Language and are paid through work-study funds.

**James V. Bastek House:** The Bastek Honors House is a place for quiet study, club meetings and socializing, as well as a classroom for small Honors seminars. The Honors Program offers special events throughout the year…and they always have snacks!

The Social Justice Program, along with the Urban Studies Department and Honors Program, spearheaded an effort to make the Social Justice/Honors House backyard into a Community Garden and Meeting Space.

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**Rose’s Schedule: A Day in the Life of an Honors Student:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast: Omelette station in the cafeteria while sipping my morning coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Perspectives on Politics – Dr. Mirescu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch: Make Your Own Burrito in the cafeteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Art in the City – Dr. Boshart (meet by the shuttle and take the path to NYC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Yoga with Dr. Wifall in the Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>English Club Lord of the Rings showing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner: Walk over to Prince of Pizza for a buffalo chicken slice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Finish presentation for Communications and History Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Snack break and read through scholarly articles for my research paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Crash!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Honors Program: Admission to Graduation

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“I’ve met some of my best friends through the Honors Program and in my Honors classes – friends who not only challenge me academically, but who share similar interests and who I can completely be myself around! Having friends in the Honors Program definitely makes writing research papers and finishing case studies a lot easier and more enjoyable, because I have people who are taking the same rigorous course load to help me along the way.”

– Anica B. ’18

To learn more about the Honors Program, please visit our website at saintpeters.edu/Honors-Program