Honors Sections deepen and enhance students’ learning experiences in smaller sections of courses. Honors Sections are typically found in General Education or introductory major-specific classes where there is a large audience or target population.

Dimensions of Honors Learning

The Dimensions of Honors Learning are the six marketable skills students strengthen through their participation in the Honors Program. Honors Section instructors are encouraged to consider how related Dimensions can be woven throughout course content.

- Critical Thinking: Go beyond your initial understanding to evaluate and make your own conclusions about what you are learning.
- Interdisciplinary Learning: Discover how what you are learning relates to other fields and the world around you.
- Information Fluency: Gain skills in evaluating, creating, and utilizing information and technology across various formats and platforms.
- Creative Productivity: Show your understanding by creating something unique. Go outside the box to make your ideas a reality.
- Leadership Development: Identify and enhance your leadership skills through collaboration with others to make a difference.
- Intercultural Competence: Understand how culture and context influence people’s worldviews and learn how to collaborate with people across diverse groups.

The Honors Program appreciates support from Departments/Schools in offering Honors Sections. We want to make these sections successful and a great learning opportunity for our students and faculty.

Help us assist you by…

Communicating with the Honors Program

- Share your course syllabus with us. We encourage sections that strive to challenge our students in innovative ways by enriching their learning through “different” rather than additional work.
- We promote Honors Sections to our students and knowing what makes the course unique as compared to another section is a helpful selling point.
- We can discuss enrollment preferences; is the class limited to Honors students, or are non-Honors students with a 3.3 GPA welcome to register?

Considering course scheduling

- Honors students register for classes the first day registration is available (mid-October and mid-March); Honors Sections opened after the first few days of registration are unlikely to fill, as students are generally set with their schedules.
- We can provide guidance on class times that have been successful with our students.

Communicating with your students

- Please include the following statement on your syllabus: “This course is an Honors Section and counts as an Honors Learning Experience. Successful completion of this course, defined as earning a “C” or better, will fulfill your Honors Program participation requirement for the semester.”
- Encourage students to make connections between course content and the Dimensions of Honors Learning.

For additional information, please visit Honors.IllinoisState.edu or contact Dr. Tina Thompson at tinathompson@ilstu.edu.