

Honors Program @ CAC

The Honors Program at Central Arizona College provides academically talented and motivated students opportunities for intellectual challenge and growth. The Honors Program encourages students to question, research, discover and debate. The scholarly inquiry begun in this program provides a strong base for a lifelong quest for knowledge and excellence.

Benefits of the Program

Participating in the Honors Program at CAC is valuable because of:

- the individualized attention & mentoring students receive from faculty & staff
- the smaller and more intimate honors classes
- the extended & enriched curriculum and intellectual opportunities
- the recognition students receive for exceptional academic achievement
- transfer assistance and facilitation of entry in university Honors Programs, and
- up to \$1500 per year scholarship

Importance of the Program

The Honors Curriculum offers talented students opportunities for research, reflection, critical reading/thinking/writing and discussion, which enhances the academic potential of all participants and helps to prepare students for the rigor of a university curriculum.

Contact:

Dr.Terri Ackland, Dean of Honors

Michelle Gomez, Honors Division Assistant
honors.education@centralaz.edu



Campus:

● Signal Peak Campus
8470 N. Overfield Rd.
Coolidge, AZ 85128
520-494-5444
800-237-9814

● Aravaipa Campus
80440 E. Aravaipa Rd.
Winkelman, AZ 85192
520-357-2800
866-869-6507

● Maricopa Campus
17945 N. Regent Drive
Maricopa, AZ 85138
520-494-6400

● San Tan Campus
3736 E. Bella Vista Road
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143
480-677-7825
520-494-6725

● Superstition Mountain Campus
805 S. Idaho Road
Apache Junction, AZ 85119
480-677-7700

Center:

● Casa Grande Center
1015 E. Florence Blvd.
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-494-6050

● Corporate Center
(Interstate 10 & Florence Blvd.)
540 N. Camino Mercado
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-494-6600

● Florence Center
P.O. Box 707
800 E. Butte Avenue
Florence, AZ 85132
520-494-6801



Honors Program



Central Arizona College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
For information about Central Arizona College's accreditation, you can contact the Higher Learning Commission at 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504, 312-263-0456 or online at ncahlc.org.

The Honors Program Provides . . .

Recognition

The Honors Program provides recognition for exceptional academic achievement. Students are acknowledged at the Spring Honors Convocation. At graduation those who have successfully completed the 18-hour program requirements receive the Honors Medallion special recognition for their achievement and are first in the processional. Often Honors students are also recognized at other campus and state awards ceremonies.

Transfer Assistance

The Honors Program assists students to transfer successfully to other institutions and their Honors Programs. Colloquium students visit one or more of the state universities to learn about Honors, transfer & admission. The program also offers personal advisement to plan programs of study and priority registration at CAC.

General Education Requirements

HNR 204 & HNR 205 satisfy general education requirements for graduation from CAC (Humanities & Intensive Writing/Critical Thinking) and transfer to fulfill some university requirements.

Extended Curriculum

Honors courses offer academically talented students opportunities beyond those found in the regular curriculum. Students have an opportunity to study subjects of their choice in greater depth than the normal classroom situation provides.

Individualization

The Colloquium class has an average of 15 students — Seminars even fewer — allowing Honors students to get more personal attention than they would in other, larger classes. Professors and Mentors take time out of their schedules to help and to work with students. The program provides a strong support network among students, faculty & staff.

Honors Program Curriculum

Honors courses are currently offered in an online format.

Colloquium Sequence

The program was designed for Honors students to complete two consecutive semesters of Honors Colloquium, HNR 204 & 205. Each Colloquium course is a 3-credit class.

The course provides a forum for reading and analyzing academic texts from a variety of disciplines. Open discussion, analysis and synthesis are encouraged in oral and written responses.

The course offers the opportunity for the Honors student to complete an in-depth, two semester research project in an area of academic, or creative interest, monitored by the colloquium Professor and a Mentor who has uncommon knowledge or ability in that field.

The course offers enrichment activities of cultural and scholarly significance such as lectures, exhibits, productions, museum trips, concerts, leadership retreats, and local, state & regional academic conferences.

Courses Taken for Honors Credit & Seminars

After completing the Colloquium Sequence students select three transfer courses to take for Honors credit. The student initially enrolls in the regularly scheduled course and then contracts with the Professor to take this course for Honors credit. The student is responsible for fulfilling the special project that must be completed for the student to receive honors credit. That special project is one mutually agreed upon by the student, the Professor and the Seminar Professor.

For each class taken for Honors credit, a semester of Honors Seminar must be taken concurrently. The Honors Seminar, a one-credit class, is to aid the students in the completion of the project required in the course taken for Honors credit. It allows students to develop and share research and other inquiry among themselves, followed by in-depth discussion, and presentation.

There are two ways to become eligible to apply to the program:

1. Recent high school graduates must meet one of the following criteria:

- Cumulative HS GPA of 3.5
- Top 5% of graduating class

2. Current CAC students must have

- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25
- At least 12 transferable, college-level credits already earned at CAC.

In addition, prospective applicants must provide 2-3 current letters of recommendation from educators, unofficial transcripts, and a 500-word essay explaining why you would like to become a member of the Honors Program. The essay may address any reasons you have, but it should explain why you are interested, how your interest relates to your future plans and why you think being in the Program would enhance your academic experience.

Students may be asked to schedule an interview with the Honors Program Dean as part of the application process. To be accepted, students must be in good disciplinary standing with the college.

Scholarships

Upon acceptance into the program, each Honors student will receive an academic scholarship of up to \$750 per semester for up to 4 consecutive semesters. The scholarship may be used to cover tuition, books and supplies. In addition, the Honors scholarship can be supplemental to other scholarship & financial aid for which the student may qualify.

The scholarship is not contingent on FAFSA score or immigration status.