

## Prospective students' FAQs

### **How do I get into the Honors College?**

If you meet SAT or ACT requirements (usually around 1360 or 30 minimum), you will automatically receive a letter inviting you to join. If your scores are lower, you may fill out a separate application.

### **Are there extra courses in the Honors College?**

No. You need six HONR courses for graduation, but they replace six courses that are already part of your normal schedule – the university core curriculum (UCOR).

### **Do I pay extra tuition?**

No.

### **Is there an extra scholarship?**

No. All financial aid is handled through the Office of Financial Aid. The Honors College provides financial support for special projects you may wish to do, though, such as Honors Fellows

### **Are the classes harder?**

No, but they're different. They are much smaller than regular UCOR classes at Duquesne – typically around 15 students or fewer. Therefore there is a lot of interaction between students and faculty, and the learning is discussion-based. Honors classes carry much less “busy work” than regular UCOR classes, and focus on special topics. See our curriculum page for more information.

### **Will my GPA suffer?**

Not because of the Honors College. If you're invited to join the Honors College, and you appreciate liberal arts and humanities, you'll like these classes and you will do well. However, if you don't see the connection between your future life and the benefits of in-depth humanities study, you should say no to our invitation.

### **I will be a student-athlete. Is the Honors College too much for me?**

Past experience says no. We have had many student-athletes in the Honors College: basketball, soccer, lacrosse, swimming, and many more. You handled high school athletics and academics very well, and you'll do that in college as well. As a general rule, if you're invited to join the Honors College, you can handle it.

### **Everyone is telling me my major will be hard. Should I wait to see how it is, then join the Honors College in second semester freshman year?**

That's not the best route to take. It would be better to start, and then withdraw if you don't feel the benefits of membership. If you wait, you'll have missed at least one honors course you should have taken – and then you'll be playing catch-up.

**Do I have to live in Assumption Hall?** No, it's optional – but it's preferable. See why here