

# SMU • The University Honors Program • for Transfer Students

## *An Overview*

The University Honors Program (UHP) allows highly engaged and motivated students of all majors to enhance their academic experience at SMU by satisfying the Liberal Arts University Curriculum or General Education Curriculum requirements in small, discussion-based classes. The UHP extends beyond the work in the classroom to the development of a community of scholars—students and faculty—who relish the challenge and adventure of the life of the mind. The UHP serves as the intellectual heart of SMU, broadens students' perspectives, and raises the level of discourse across campus.

## *Opportunities for Transfer Students*

Opportunities available for transfer students through the UHP include:

- enrollment in highly selective seminars with low enrollments of motivated students—generally 15 students per class.
- funding for independent research working with faculty members abroad or in the U.S.
- participation in an intellectual honors community that offers a full calendar of optional honors events including lectures, field trips, book discussions, lunches and dinners which allow students to explore our campus and city through an ever-changing lens.

## *The Richter Research Fellowship*

The Richter Fellowship program,

funded by the Paul K. and Evelyn E. Cook Richter Memorial Funds, awards grants to members of the UHP to conduct independent research, both outside or within the United States. The project can cover any area of study, but multicultural and/or international work is encouraged. Interested students submit grant proposals and detailed budgets to a committee of professors and previous Richter Fellows. The proposal is evaluated upon the originality and merit of the topic, the strength of the research methodology, and the maturity and competency of the student. Each student works with a faculty advisor both to craft the initial proposal and write a scholarly work after completing the research.

Richter Fellowships are awarded twice a year. Applicants must be in good standing at SMU, and have completed one year of study at SMU. Successful proposals and budgets from previous years can be found on the Honors website at [smu.edu/univhonors](http://smu.edu/univhonors).

## *Requirements to Complete the University Honors Program*

The requirements for completing the UHP vary based on the number of hours a transfer student brings to SMU. Students transferring fewer than 42 credit hours to SMU take 6 honors seminars that will include at least one intensive writing course. Students with more than 42 transferable hours complete 5 honors seminars to be determined in consultation with the Honors Director.

All honors classes must be completed in residence at SMU.

## *Graduating with University Honors*

Students who successfully complete the SMU University Honors Program graduate with honors from the University. The honors designation "Honors in the Liberal Arts" is recorded on the students' academic records and diplomas.

## *Admission to the UHP as a Transfer Student*

Transfer students of all majors who are interested in a rigorous course of study should apply for admission. Successful applicants should have a transferable GPA of at least 3.7.

## *Admission Procedures*

Any eligible transfer student interested in the UHP should contact his/her admission counselor to obtain an application. For additional information, please contact Dr. David D. Doyle, Jr., Director of the University Honors Program, at [ddoyle@smu.edu](mailto:didoyle@smu.edu), or Ms. Sally Spaniolo, Associate Director, University Honors Program, at [sspaniolo@smu.edu](mailto:sspaniolo@smu.edu). More information can also be found at [smu.edu/univhonors](http://smu.edu/univhonors) and [smu.edu/transfer/uhp](http://smu.edu/transfer/uhp).

For more information about transferring to SMU, please go to [smu.edu/transfer](http://smu.edu/transfer) or call 214-768-3417.