

Honors Program Committee Meeting Minutes  
Friday, November 13, 2020.  
4:00 pm, via Zoom

Present:

Jessica Zeitz (CAS), Mindy Erchull (CAS), Leanna Giancarlo (Chair, CAS), Ping Yin (CAS),  
Nora Kim (CAS, Secretary)

Ex officio: Mara Scanlon (CAS, Assistant Director of the Honors Program), Kelli Slunt (CAS,  
Director of the Honors Program)

The committee met via Zoom to discuss and vote on a student appeal of a HN designated course.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> year student in the Honors program is behind of her Honors course requirements because she did not take an Honors course in the Spring 2020, due to lack of clear guidance on the Honors program requirements. During the Spring 2020 advising period, she was advised to take a course to meet the Honors Program requirements and registered for it; however, that course (due to staffing issues) was not offered as HN this semester, and the student is now at the risk of being put on probation from the Honors program. The course in question has retained many of the outcomes associated with the HN designation.

The Committee deliberated on four options:

Option 1: Approve the student's appeal and count the current course as a Honors course

Option 2: Reject the student's appeal but give the student an extension on meeting the Honors requirements, no probation

Option 3: Waive the Honors course requirements

Option 4: Reinstate a HN contract and to make the current course count for Honors credits with additional assignments

A majority of committee voted in favor of waiving the HN course requirement (Option 3) citing 1) mis/insufficient advising she has gotten during AY 2019 – 2020, 2) extra challenges posed by the pandemic, and 3) sufficient similarities in the content of non-Honors and Honors versions of the course in question.

The Committee also discussed ways to prevent similar errors from happening again in the future, which included: 1) Making HN courses more visible and easy to find on the course schedule and 2) Mandating HN course SOLs to be listed in all HN course syllabi.

The Chair agreed to draft a decision letter and share it with the Committee for feedback by Monday. Once approved from the Committee, the Chair will email the decision letter to the student.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.