Course Offerings
Fall 2022 & Spring 2023
ABOUT THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum is comprised of five discussion-based courses, called seminars, taken over the course of four years. Connected by the idea of “Community,” these interdisciplinary courses fulfill requirements of the Integrations Curriculum and combine easily with most majors and minors. Honors Scholars for Community and Collaborative Leadership courses include student learning outcomes from both the Integrations Curriculum and those specific to the Honors Scholars program.

The four-year program centers on developing collaborative skills and strategies for enhancing the common good of the community.

HONORS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM

Five courses (20 credits)
Honors 1 (HONR 105--CI): first year, spring semester
Honors 2 (HONR 20X—TE1): sophomore year, either semester
Honors 3 (HONR 300--CS): sophomore year, either semester
Honors 4 (HONR 36X—TE3): junior year, either semester
Honors 5 (HONR 395—LI/INTG 300): senior year, either semester

Note: All courses except Honors 2 use Susan Komives and Wendy Wagner, Leadership for a Better World: Understanding the Social Change Model of Leadership Development so hold onto it!

ADVISING:
The Honors Scholars program will offer three sections of each course during an academic year. This pamphlet lists the courses that will be offered in Fall 2022 and in Spring 2023 to help you plan.

Rising sophomores will take Honors 2 (iHONR 20X) and Honors 3 (HONR 300) next year. You may take them in either order or both in the same semester.
All sections of Honors 2 are Thematic Encounter: Truth-themed courses, but note that they are offered in different ways of thinking and on different topics depending on the semester.
All sections of Honors 3 have the CS designation for the Integrations Curriculum; topics vary by section.

Rising juniors will take Honors 4 (either HONR 360 or HONR 363). Honors 4 is a Thematic Encounter: Truth-themed course, topics and ways of thinking vary by section.

Please contact Beth Wengler (ewengler@csbsju.edu) or Emily Esch (eesch@csbsju.edu), program directors, with any questions!
HONORS 2: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO COMMUNITIES OF SCHOLARSHIP (T1)

This course is team-taught by instructors from two different Ways of Thinking. Students will engage with the key concepts of a liberal arts education – which include acquiring a broad base of knowledge and integrating that knowledge across different domains – in an effort to recognize the intellectual value of different disciplinary perspectives and the usefulness of merging material and methods when studying an issue, forming a belief or making a decision.

HONR 204A Gender, Mathematics, and Who Gets to Be a Mathematician (AS & HE)
Dr. Robert Campbell and Dr. Erica Stonestreet, MWF, 1:00pm-1:55pm, CSB
This seminar explores how we choose to do mathematics. Most people think of mathematics as a cut-and-dried field where there’s only one right answer. But it turns out that how we choose to do mathematics impacts what mathematics we do and who does the mathematics. We will explore several different philosophies of teaching mathematics, doing and re-doing some basic number theory through the lens of each teaching philosophy to illustrate how the learning experiences differ. Throughout all of this, we will analyze how gender and culture affect and are affected by the choice of teaching philosophy.

HONORS 3: COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS (CS)

In this course, students explore how constructions of race, gender and ethnicity shape cultural rules and biases and how these constructions vary across time, cultures and societies. They’ll also critically analyze how these forms of identity raise questions of justice with regard to access and participation in communal life. Specific topics, national and cultural contexts and time periods will vary by instructor.

HONR 300A Native Assimilation and Revitalization (CS)
Dr. Ted Gordon, TR, 2:40pm-4:00pm, CSB
Are communities responsible for redressing injustices in their past? For almost a century, the United States pursued a policy of forcing Native youth to assimilate to White American culture. The principle method was family separation. The government mandated that Native families send their children to boarding schools designed to force assimilation. The Order of St. Benedict once operated two of these schools on our campuses and two others, based on the White Earth and Red Lake reservations. In this course, students will examine 1) the systematic injustices of Native American boarding schools, 2) the impacts of these schools on the construction and intersection of Native, racial, gender, religions and class identities, and 3) the ways Native communities resisted forced assimilation.

HONR 300B Queer Intersections (CS)
Dr. Anna Mercedes, Wednesday evening, 6:15pm-9:15pm
This course centers on queer theory, theory related to LGBTQ+ life and liberation. But in interplay with the concept of “intersectionality,” that lens which reveals the overlapping dynamics produced by the experience of more than one social oppression, this course traces intersecting theories and movements in work for social justice. Accordingly, the course has three units: Queer theory and activism in intersection with 1) critical race theory and anti-racist activism, 2) postcolonial theory and decolonial activism, 3) queer theologies and movements to interrupt Christian privilege. The course relies on a Social Justice Education framework in order to equip students to mobilize theory into practices for dismantling social oppressions.
HONORS 4: COMMUNITY, RESEARCH AND SOCIAL CHANGE (T3)

This course uncovers the privileges and responsibilities that come with community membership. Students will put their theories into practice by identifying an authentic opportunity or challenge that would enhance the common good, researching it from all angles, producing research papers and making oral presentations to community stakeholders.

HONR 360 Community Histories (300 level Thematic Encounter: Truth, HE, EXP)

Dr. Brittany Merritt Nash, TR, 9:55am-11:15am, CSB

In this section of the course, students will research “community histories” of underrepresented or marginalized groups within CSB/SJU or the wider St. Joseph community. Students will conduct archival research in the CSB/SJU libraries and archives, which house records pertaining to the history of the CSB/SJU community. Additionally, students may conduct oral history interviews either on campus or within the wider St. Joseph community more broadly to document additional histories that have been left out of the archive.

HONR 363 Wellbeing, Happiness & Social Change (300 level Thematic Encounter, Truth, SW, EXP)

Dr. Sucharita Mukherjee, MWF, 11:50am-12:45pm, CSB

This course focuses on understanding the ideas of Wellbeing and Happiness and the importance of those ideas for the social common good. In the process it seeks to develop an understanding the parameters that comprise individual and social wellbeing and happiness and how systemic and structural inequalities in social structures and institutions such as race, class and gender plague our societal wellbeing and threaten to challenge our success as a society. This course based on the Social World Way of Thinking is focused on developing an understanding of economic wellbeing and happiness, evaluating the role of public policy for enhancing socio-economic wellbeing and motivating students to become leaders advocating social justice and change in their communities. Students will research a challenge to the well-being of their community, analyze it using their knowledge from the course. identify appropriate steps through which action could be mobilized. Examples of problems could be a) the racial education gap in Saint Cloud; b) the gender gap in majors at CSB/SJU or c) unequal access to Covid-19 vaccination in the local community.

SPRING 2023 COURSES INCLUDE:

HONR 105 Solidarity & Difference (CI)
HONR 105 Lockuptown: Incarceration in the United States (CI)
HONR 105 Midnimo in Minnesota (CI)
HONR 202 Controversy and the Scientific Community (HE and NW)
HONR 203A Propaganda, Art, and Action (AE and HE)
HONR 300 That's A Different Story...: Literature and the Common Good (CS)
HONR 360 Community Histories (300 level Thematic Encounter: Truth, HE, EXP)