

**GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY**

HONORS COLLEGE

EMBRACE
the challenge.
ENRICH
our future



THE HONORS COLLEGE

FIND YOUR PURPOSE
Private. Christian. Affordable.

OUR VALUES

1 STRENGTH IN A CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY

We value relationships over transactions.

2 INNOVATION THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION

We conduct strategic, purpose-driven research to drive innovative solutions.

3 CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY

We work from the context of a Christian worldview and embrace servant leadership.

4 GLOBAL EXPLORATION AND ENGAGEMENT

We promote cultural awareness by engaging with diverse communities.

5 COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND SERVICE-MINDED LEADERSHIP

We strive to develop transformational leaders committed to advocacy and action.

6 COMMITMENT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

We devote ourselves to continual professional and spiritual growth.



CONNECT WITH US



@GCU HONORS



THE HONORS COLLEGE AT
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY



GCUHONORS.ORG



GCU HONORS COLLEGE



THE HONORS COLLEGE AT
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

THE HONORS COLLEGE AT GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

MISSION STATEMENT

The Honors College at Grand Canyon University is dedicated to cultivating a learner-centric environment that promotes character and integrity, intellectual growth and practical application through interdisciplinary collaboration. We empower students to amplify their purpose through intentional curricula and comprehensive co-curricular experiences. Honors graduates emerge as adept communicators, evidence-based decision-makers and deliberate global contributors while becoming good stewards of their faith and purpose.



Message From **THE DEAN**

Our mission is to ensure that students in our Honors College develop into exemplary graduates and influential agents of change who will lead and serve in the workplace, within their local communities and beyond.

Honors students have invigorating opportunities that extend beyond an enhanced classroom experience and academic rigor. These exclusive prospects include mentorship, interdisciplinary collaboration with honors faculty and peers, priority invitations to featured speaker events, access to honors clubs and organizations, intentional community service projects, networking events and other engaging activities.

Special honors opportunities for traditional study abroad, mission trips and short-term domestic or international excursions can also create deep, meaningful experiences. We believe that you possess the vast potential to greatly impact both the local and global community. We also believe that social, spiritual, community and team-oriented ventures both inside and outside of GCU can help our students position themselves to create both a career and a life filled with purpose.

We look forward to engaging you in academic and experiential opportunities. We welcome you to an exciting new year defined by personal growth, scholarship, achievement and leadership. Your future awaits at the Honors College!

- Breanna Naegeli, PhD, Dean of the Honors College

5 WAYS GCU HONORS CAN HELP YOU

1. HONORS ORIENTATION

Kickstart your honors experience at Honors Orientation, where you'll learn about the Honors College and meet the honors administration, student leaders and other incoming honors students. You'll also discover how to maximize your undergraduate experience in the program to prepare for your future.

2. EMBRACE ADVENTURE, EXPLORE THE WORLD

The Honors College hosts multiple short-term global studies programs each year. GCU offers traditional study abroad and mission trips, as well as international internship opportunities for students who have a desire to explore the world while earning honors course credit. Email GlobalStudies@gcu.edu to learn about the global partnerships that connect us to international cities across the globe.

3. INTERNSHIPS AND INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

Explore internship opportunities locally, throughout the United States or even internationally in a variety of industries to gain practical experience. Partake in hands-on, project-based experience through our yearlong Leadership in Action Fellowship or engage with our Dean's Honors College Advisory Board for industry-based projects and research.



4. ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

To change the world, you must first engage with the world. The Honors College hosts an annual Service Week campaign along with numerous local and global service-focused activities. Participate in a global medical mission trip or engage in various local ministries and projects that give back to our surrounding community.

5. HONORS COURSES

The Honors College offers an extensive list of honors general education, core and elective courses for students to pursue. Whether seeking support for the LSAT exam, guidance on professional development, support for the medical school application process or academic journal writing and beyond, these honors electives serve as an invaluable resource for honors students, all while earning credit toward their degree.



CAMDEN MARASCO

Class of 2023

Hometown:

Murfreesboro, TN

Degree Program:

Bachelor of Science
in Business Management |
Communications Minor

Why Join the GCU Honors College?

The Honors College provided me with unbelievable opportunities during my freshman year. I networked with professionals, developed my personal brand and have confidence as I navigate professional life outside of college.



**THE HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS EIGHT
UNIQUELY DESIGNED PROFESSIONAL AND
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
TO HONORS COLLEGE STUDENTS EACH
YEAR AT NO CHARGE.**

**THE HONORS COLLEGE
HAD NEARLY 3,000
ENROLLED STUDENTS IN FALL 2025¹**

**NEW FALL 2025 GCU HONORS
COLLEGE STUDENTS' AVERAGE
WEIGHTED INCOMING
GPA: 4.10²**

¹Includes students who were enrolled in the Honors College as of day 21 of the fall 2025 semester.

²Results are based on date and time report was originally pulled. Dataset was pulled on Sept. 22, 2025.



HONORS BENEFITS

Along with achieving academic excellence, honors students are encouraged to participate in various social, spiritual life, team-building and exclusive honors events.

- Access to the Honors College Lounge and an additional study and collaboration room
- Complimentary honors-exclusive commencement regalia
- Honors diploma and designation on transcripts
- Honors housing for freshmen in Juniper Hall
- Mentoring with honors-dedicated faculty members and administration
- No cost printing within the Honors College offices
- Priority housing selection for eligible continuing honors students

**To learn more about graduation requirements for the Honors College,
please visit gcu.edu/honors**



Engineering



Pre-Health

**CHECK OUT THESE VIDEOS
HIGHLIGHTING OUR STUDENTS'
ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN HONORS
ENGINEERING AND PRE-HEALTH!**

CUSTOMIZE YOUR HONORS COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION INSTITUTE

- Honors Student Council
- Leadership in Action Fellowship
- Men of VALOR Professional and Leadership Development Program
- Next Generation Leadership Conference
- PAC Professional Development and Peer Mentoring Program
- Pen to Purpose Journal Writing Program
- Pre-Health Medical and Graduate School Preparation Program
- Young Athena Leadership Development Program

SPEAKER SERIES

- Dean's Speaker Series
- Inside Entertainment Speaker Series
- Public Square Series

CANYON CIVIC INSTITUTE

This program is designed to provide students with hands-on experience and professional development in the public square. At the heart of the program is the belief that public service and civic engagement are a noble calling, and the best way to work in these sectors is through serving others.

NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETIES

Engage locally within our GCU chapter and connect with scholars worldwide!

- Alpha Chi National College Honor Society
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars



FOR A FULL LIST OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS, PLEASE VISIT [GCU.EDU/CLUBS](https://www.gcu.edu/clubs)

HONORS COURSEWORK

Honors curriculum is meticulously crafted to cultivate intellectual depth while fostering enriching learning experiences that aim to both captivate and challenge learners. Through thought-provoking content and dynamic discussions, it can ignite a passion for intellectual curiosity and critical analysis. By blending rigorous academics with practical application, it can equip learners with the skills needed to adapt in an ever-evolving world.

Honors coursework can be categorized into the following:

- Honors addendum courses
- Honors electives
- Honors enrichment contracts
- Honors only cohorts



Scan the QR code for our full course catalog:



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LENA-MAY HAUGHT

Class of 2023

Hometown:

Skull Valley, AZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Sociology with an Emphasis in Social Work

Why Join the GCU Honors College?

The GCU Honors College is truly special because they come into every situation with the presupposition that every single student has something incredible to offer, rather than just looking for ways to eliminate people. It is revolutionary to be a part of the honors community because everyone is actively seeking for ways to believe in you, not ways to criticize you.



GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

SHORT-TERM GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

The Honors College offers international short-term global studies programs for honors students to enhance their learning and exploration. Students can embark on adventures around the globe to discover new countries, experience different cultures, see incredible sights and learn about famous landmarks.

TRADITIONAL STUDY ABROAD

GCU partners with five prominent study abroad providers and one international internship provider to offer students exciting study abroad program opportunities that count as earned credit within their program of study. These semester-long, full-year and summer experiences are at approved foreign universities and companies worldwide.

LIVING AND LEARNING INTERNATIONAL

Looking to study abroad with a group of honors peers? The Honors College supports cohorts of students in semester-long programs in Quito, Ecuador; Rome, Italy and a study-away program in Baltimore, Maryland. Earn up to 20 transferrable college credits, intern within your desired industry and experience Christian fellowship within the community.

EMBRACE ADVENTURE. EXPLORE THE WORLD.

MISSION PROGRAMS WITH WELL CHILD INTERNATIONAL

Honors students can travel internationally as part of a missions team to make a difference. GCU global outreach trips give students the life-changing opportunity to make an impact through service, social work and more, from teaching English through ministry partnerships to building relationships with locals in remote villages. Our mission trips for honors students are also a fantastic opportunity to experience service within various professional industries.

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

GCU partners with The Intern Group to offer international internship opportunities around the globe ranging from four to 12 weeks in length. Students work alongside international industry experts while also engaging in professional development, leadership training and cultural immersion experiences. Internships are available in most industries, including STEM, health care, education, nonprofit, marketing, hospitality and more. Best of all, you can earn college credit for your internship experience.



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

GCU's flourishing research community brings together faculty scholars, emerging doctoral researchers, industry partners and collaborative undergraduate research teams. We support faculty scholarship across all disciplines, with a special focus on fostering teaching excellence and mentoring student curiosity. This integrated approach highlights our commitment to enhancing student learning while advancing our growing scholarly community.

CANYON EMERGING SCHOLARS

The Canyon Emerging Scholars (CES) program aims to support faculty research in both co-curricular and extra-curricular settings, with a focus on mentoring students in practical problem-solving across disciplinary and interdisciplinary topics. Honors students are strongly encouraged to apply for these research opportunities as early as freshman year. In this program, students are expected to contribute directly to current research and design projects led by faculty while learning various research techniques and methodologies. Students can present both locally and on larger platforms across the country.

CANYON JOURNAL OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The **Canyon Journal of Undergraduate Research (CJUR)** is dedicated to the publication of exemplary faculty-mentored and peer-reviewed research produced by undergraduate students at GCU. The CJUR is multidisciplinary with original, contemporary research in alignment with the Boyer Model of Scholarship.

Honors College students have access to HON-355: Academic Journal Writing, an interactive, workshop-style course supported by a faculty mentor to coach students on preparing for the publication process.

CANYON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The Honors College hosts this multidisciplinary academic conference annually, offering students a platform to share about research, project or community engagement experiences through a poster presentation display, oral presentation or capstone project. This conference welcomes our community and industry partners, employers and the entire academic community to experience this profound display of academic excellence.

HONORS SHOWCASE

Honors students can present their research and projects to a panel of industry experts and judges for the opportunity to earn scholarship funding for the following academic year.

ADVICE FOR NEW STUDENTS



Listen to what our Honors College alumni have to say about their experience with GCU!



KENDALL SMITH

Class of 2022 | Scottsdale, AZ

Take advantage of as many opportunities as you can as long as you are not spreading yourself too thin. Your mental health is just as important, if not more important, than your accomplishments.



CHLOE CAMPBELL

Class of 2022 | Keizer, OR

Your freshman year is the perfect opportunity to try new things in order to see what you are passionate about and what you feel called to do. With that being said, hit the ground running and show up! Your honors staff and peers will meet you where you are, so apply yourself and don't be afraid to be vulnerable and try activities that may scare and challenge you.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HONORS COLLEGE, PLEASE VISIT [GCU.EDU/HONORS](https://gcu.edu/honors)

NEXT STEPS

1



Apply at
gcu.edu/ApplyNow
and upload your transcripts.
No application fee!

2



Make an appointment with
your admissions counselor
to review scholarships and
programs.

3



Upon acceptance,
visit campus
(all-expenses-paid¹
programs available).

4



Register early to
secure courses and
on-campus housing.

5



Pack your sunglasses
and move to
Lope Country!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

undergraduate programs offered on campus, available scholarships and more, contact a university admissions counselor.

855-428-7884 | gcu.edu/CampusAdmissions

¹ All-expenses-paid visits are only available to prospective students accepted to the traditional campus. Student and parent/guardian (if student is under 18) are required to sign the Discover GCU Waiver. GCU will arrange and book air or ground travel to and from the student's home city/state to Phoenix. The visit also includes accommodations in the Discover GCU residence hall and a meal card that covers breakfast, lunch and dinner while on campus. If utilizing travel reimbursement instead, additional restrictions may apply.

Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLCcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Program availability varies and are not offered in all states or modalities. Policy information is available in the University Policy Handbook at gcu.edu/academics/academic-policies.php. Scholarship information is available on gcu.edu. Approved and verified accurate by the Dean of Honors College on Feb. 9, 2026. ©2026 Grand Canyon University 26GTR0141