



# GOVSTATE HONORS COLLEGE PLANNING COMPLETION GUIDE

## Honors Program Points Curriculum

### GOVSTATE HONORS COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

The Governors State University GovState Honors College is committed to providing high-impact, unique, challenging, and experiential learning opportunities, in and out of the classroom, for our high achieving students. We seek to promote leadership skills and personal development in our curricular and co-curricular opportunities for the betterment of the individual student, the university, and the global community.

## HP CAPSTONE

A “capstone” is the final stone in a structure, the finishing touch, the culmination of an endeavor, and a crowning achievement. Students select between an internship, thesis, or project capstone option as part of this program, depending on the chosen sequence. **Honors Capstone are worth 3 HP Points.**

### POINTS

Honors Capstone Project/Internship/Thesis (completed by graduation)

## HP COURSES

Honors courses are meant to provide high-impact, challenging learning experiences that encourage experiential learning techniques. These courses should take concepts students are working on in the regular curriculum and encourage advanced, enriched level application of these concepts. Honors courses are taught by faculty specifically selected to work with honors students who can help you with your development in the Honors College. Honors courses are worth 1 HP point per unit of credit. **For HP Points – Complete course with grade of C or better.**

Please note the honors courses you completed below. Make an appointment with the GovState Honors College Dean if you cannot meet the minimum course requirements.

*Incoming Freshmen: Complete first seven courses listed below unless exception approved—credit/AP for courses.  
All others: Complete HONS 3000*

### COURSES

### POINTS

**FYS 1001 - FIRST YEAR SEMINAR (HONORS)**  
**COUN 1008 - MASTERING COLLEGE (HONORS)**  
**ENGL 1000 - WRITING STUDIES I (HONORS)**  
**ENGL 1010 - WRITING STUDIES II (HONORS)**  
**COMM 1000 - PUBLIC DISCOURSE (HONORS)**  
**HONS 2xxx - SECOND YEAR SEMINAR**  
**HONS 3000 - FUTURE FOUNDATION IN HONORS**  
**HONS 4700 - INDEPENDENT STUDY**  
**HONS 4800 - INTERNSHIP**  
**HONS 4xxx - HONORS SEMINAR**

## HP CONTRACTS

Honors contracts are designed to allow students to earn HP points in non-honors courses. These can be utilized in major courses, minor courses, or upper-division electives. A course contract involves the completion of a project, research paper, or similar equivalent that is designed to enrich the learning experience occurring in the classroom. These projects may provide opportunities for applying for undergraduate research grants, presentation at the presentation at GovState Research Days or other regional and national events. Honors students may complete up to two contracts for honors credit without special permission from the HC dean. Honors courses are worth 1 or 2 HP points each depending on what is agreed to by the student and instructor. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through research activities. **For HP Points – Contract approved by HC dean prior to beginning, contract requirements completed.**

### CONTRACT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

### POINTS

## HP ABROAD

Study abroad opportunities allow students to study abroad in short-term (a few weeks) and longer term (a semester or year). These programs are either offered directly through Governors State or through enrolling in another university's study abroad program. Students earn 1 HP point for any course completed abroad experience: maximum of 2 HP points. **For HP Points – Complete HP Abroad Verification Form.**

### **COURSES COMPLETED ABROAD**

**POINTS**

## HP RESEARCH

HP Research opportunities encourage honors students to be involved in working on research on their own or with faculty at Governors State University. This can include research students complete in their own classes as well as research students work on with other faculty. Students earn 1 HP point for each paper authorship or presentation they are involved in at a regional level or GovState Research Days. Students earn 2 HP points for each paper authorship or presentation they are involved in at a national level, the National Council for Undergraduate Research, or a scholarly journal. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through research activities.

**For HP Points – Complete HP Research Verification Form.**

### **RESEARCH OR CREATIVE ACTIVITY EXPERIENCES**

**POINTS**

## HP CONCENTRATED AREAS OF STUDY

The GovState Honors College encourages students to go beyond earning a bachelors degree by earning minors, teaching specializations, and double bachelor degrees. Students earn 1 HP point for completing a minor or teaching specialization and 2 HP points for completing a double major or two bachelors degrees. **For HP Points – Provide a Degree Audit Report with evidence of program completion.**

### **MINORS, TEACHING SPECIALIZATIONS AND DOUBLE BACHELORS DEGREES**

**POINTS**

## HP LEADERSHIP

The GovState Honors College encourages students to participate in leadership activities across GovState and the South Suburban Community. The GovState Student Leadership Institute is designed to enhance your leadership skills, develop a leadership plan and team you up with one of GovState's community leaders to mentor you. You can also practice those skills in being a peer mentor for new freshman GovState Honors College students, as a Student Senator, Honors Student Advisory Board, or in other leadership capacities. Each leadership experience earn 1 HP point for each leadership opportunity completed. Students can earn a maximum of 2 HP points through leadership activities.

### **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES**

**POINTS**

## HP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The HC encourages students to engage in professional development experiences beyond internship. These can include professional shadowing experiences, a collection of networking experiences, a professional organization membership, professional conference attendance related to a students' field of study, student career focused organizations or other professional experiences approved by faculty in your degree of study. One HP point is earned per professional development experience of at least 10 hours in duration. Students can earn a maximum of 2 HP points through professional development experiences. **For HP Points – Provide evidence of involvement in the professional development experience and faculty support that the activity is a professional development experience**

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES

POINTS

## HP PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS

The HC encourages students to apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships. These are significant national and international scholarships with national application pools and rigorous application processes. It is an excellent opportunity to experience what it is like to apply for a high-stakes position. Several scholarships require campus endorsements. Scholarship winners often have lifechanging learning opportunities domestically or abroad. One HP point is earned per campus endorsed or submitted applications for qualified scholarships valued at less than \$10,000. Two HP points are earned per campus endorsed or submitted applications for qualified scholarships valued over \$10,000. Students can earn a maximum of 4 HP points through prestigious scholarship opportunities. **For HP Points – Evidence of a qualified submitted or campus endorsed prestigious scholarship application.**

### PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS COMPLETED

POINTS

## ADD UP YOUR HP POINT TOTALS

POINTS

HP Capstone

HP Courses

HP Contracts

HP Abroad

HP Research

HP Concentrated Areas of Study

HP Leadership

HP Professional Development

HP Prestigious Scholarships

### HP Points Grand Total

## TO GRADUATE WITH UNIVERSITY HONORS

Starting as Freshmen – 26 HP points (*All required courses & Capstone + 1 Leadership point*)

All other students – 10 HP points (*All required courses & Capstone + 1 Leadership point*)

**Graduate with a GovState CGPA of 3.50 or Higher (3.84 for HLSI students)**