

Honors Seminars

Spring 2025

General education requirements courses fulfill

COURSE NUMBER	CREDIT FOR THOSE ON 2022-2023 ACADEMIC CATALOG AND BEYOND	CREDIT FOR THOSE ON EARLIER CATALOG YEARS
HON 2020	Science, Culture, & Human Values	Social Science
HON 2030	Arts and Humanities: Non-literature	Arts and Humanities: Non-literature
HON 2050	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction (Group G: Other)
HON 2060	Global Challenges	Science and Technology in Society (STS)
HON 2070	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits and Group G: Other for General Honors (GH) distinction
HON 2090	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction	Cross Cultural Awareness (CCA) (must have a total of 3 credits for Gen Ed requirement)
HON 2200	Studies in Social Science	Social Science
HON 2210	Arts and Humanities: Literature	Arts and Humanities: Literature
HON 2230	Oral Communication	Oral Communication
HON 3960	Global Challenges	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction (Group G: Other)
HON 3980	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction	Does not fulfill general education area but counts towards credits for General Honors (GH) distinction (Group G: Other)

HON 2020

The Quest for Wellbeing

The quest for self-improvement, health, and wellbeing is a major focus of people's leisure time (and a major industry in the US). This seminar will use a combination of discussions and experiences to explore how wellbeing is conceptualized in different cultures, and to critically evaluate the impact of popular leisure-based wellness activities, including yoga, journaling, and art.

Meets: T/Th 3:30-4:45 p.m.

Professor: Em Adams

Credits: 3

CRN: 17086



HON 2030

History, Technology, and Society

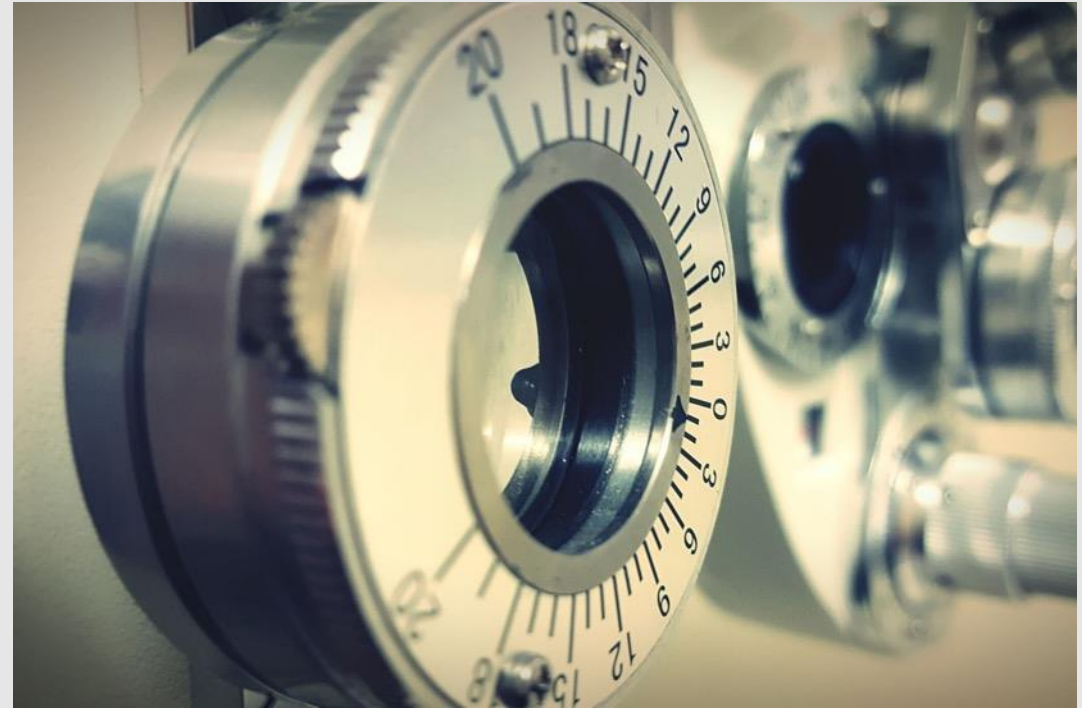
We often think of history through the lens of events and people, but history is also driven by technological forces, both great and gradual. We will examine this issue in the context of American history.

Meets: T/Th 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Professor: Alex Billinis

Credits: 3

CRN: 10378



HON 2030

Cultures of Performance

Performance is everywhere, but how do we recognize, analyze, and understand it? This course explores a wide range of questions about the role of performing, performance and performativity. We will focus on the ways in which everyday life, popular cultural topics, and art practice continue to make performance studies a vibrant, growing and interdisciplinary field.

Meets: M/W/F 10:10-11 a.m.

Professor: Lucian Gita

Credits: 3

CRN: 14815



HON 2030

Cultural Theory and Pop Culture

Popular culture shapes the way we think about ourselves and the world around us. In this course, students will learn the fundamental theoretical approaches to the study of popular culture and apply them to the consumption of popular culture in everyday life.

Meets: T/Th 12:30-1:45 p.m.

Professor: Briana Procratsky

Credits: 3

CRN: 17010



HON 2030

The World of Hamilton and Jefferson

In Lin Manuel Miranda's smash Broadway hit, *Hamilton* (2015), he invites audiences to shed their preconceived notions about early America, and instead to view the political, cultural, and social world of the 18th century from the perspective of those who shaped it. Framed around the lives of Alexander Hamilton and his arch-rival, Thomas Jefferson, this course presents students with a similar challenge, asking them to reckon with early America on its own terms. *Note:* students will attend a performance of *Hamilton* at the Peace Center on Feb. 7 (transportation not provided, tickets are provided).

Meets: T/Th 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Professor: Lee Wilson

Credits: 3

CRN: 19304



HON 2030

Secret Societies and Conspiracies

Cults and secret societies have permeated today's culture. We will investigate several conspiracies and secret societies in popular culture, including the moon landing, Knights Templar (and their treasure), the new world order, assassinations of prominent figures, what happened at Roswell in 1947, apocalyptic cults, and more.

Meets: T/Th 8-9:15 a.m.

Professor: Peter Cohen

Credits: 3

CRN: 17062



HON 2050

Architects Doing Architectures

What is it that architects actually do? And how do they do it? What motivates them? What worries them? What challenges does designing today's built environment pose? This seminar will offer a look into the field of architecture as it rapidly and radically changes. The goal is to offer a survey.

Meets: W 6:15-7:05 p.m.

Professor: Julie Wilkerson

Credits: 1

CRN: 14022



HON 2050

Entrepreneurship

Students will learn the foundational principles of conventional entrepreneurship and then move on to explore how difference makers are changing the world by starting socially conscious companies and organizations relying on these creative, efficient, and profit seeking principles. Open to all majors and all years.

Meets: W 9:05-9:55 a.m.

Professor: Keith Hudgins

Credits: 1

CRN: 14782



HON 2050

Clemson University Impact

Explore Clemson University initiatives that positively impact the state in multiple sectors, including business, healthcare, ecology, engineering, politics, and tourism. You will participate in a Spring Break trip across South Carolina, visiting sites across the state as part of Honors in Action.

Meets: M 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Professor: Eric Pernotto

Credits: 2-3

CRN: 15260



HON 2060

Tourism and Sustainability

How do we responsibly and sustainably serve the economic driver of tourism on a local, national, and international scale? Through the lens of environmental, economic, and cultural sustainability, this seminar-style course seeks student input, experience, and research to explore the effects of tourism on communities.

Meets: T/Th 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Professor: Alexander Billinis

Credits: 3

CRN: 10379



HON 2070

Mathematics and Magic

Why it is that things that are perceived to be impossible can be highly likely, and things that look highly likely may in fact be highly improbable? Many magic tricks depend upon subtle or deep results in mathematics. We will study a selection of these tricks and the mathematics behind them.

Meets: M/W/F 1:25-2:15 p.m.

Professor: Eliza Gallagher and Neil Calkin

Credits: 3

CRN: 16988



HON 2070

School Project: Happiness*

Explore the questions “How do we work?” and “Why do we work?” The beginning of the course will explore productivity, time management, & related literatures. Over Spring Break, students will complete an intensive workshop on well-being at the Fritz-Schubert Institute in Heidelberg, Germany.

Meets: T/Th 12:30-1:45 p.m.

Professor: Andrew Pyle

Credits: 3

CRN: 21399

*Note: program and travel fees apply



HON 2070

Design Thinking Design Making

Architecture meets mindful making in this interdisciplinary seminar. Synthesize philosophical foundations and technical craftsmanship to create a campus meditation space. Transform collaborative theory into reality through digital design and advanced fabrication of a full-scale wooden structure. Architecture background not required.

Meets: T/Th 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Professor: Dan Harding

Credits: 3

CRN: 21458



HON 2090

French Discussion Group

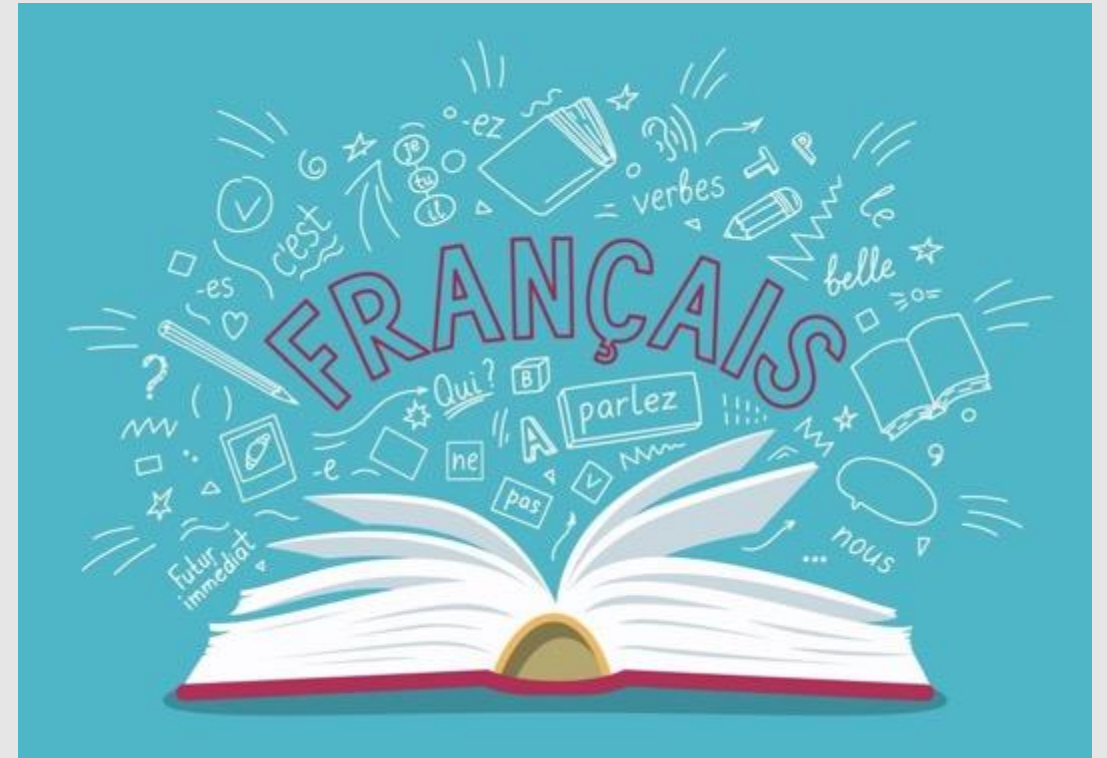
This course is open to Honors students in FREN 2020 and above. We will explore and discuss a wide range of topics (with your input) about French culture, history, art, and more. Group discussions and course materials are primarily in French to help improve your vocabulary and reading skills.

Meets: M 1:25-2:15 p.m.

Professor: Kenneth Widgren

Credits: 1

CRN: 12971



HON 2200

Cultivating Curiosity

This interdisciplinary course delves into the nature of curiosity. Explore how curiosity drives innovation, learning, and personal growth through various perspectives, including neuroscience, consumer behavior, and design.

Meets: T/Th 8-9:15 a.m.

Professor: Jenny Presgraves

Credits: 3

CRN: 21313



HON 2210

The French Fantastic

In 19th century France, stories about vampires, haunted houses, and the supernatural — a genre called the “Fantastic” — explode in popularity. Together we will read and discuss a selection of texts (all in translation) to explore this genre from historical, theoretical, and analytic points of view.

Meets: M/W/F 9:05-9:55 a.m.

Professor: Kenneth Widgren

Credits: 3

CRN: 10382



HON 2210

Medical Humanities

What does it mean to have a “normal” or “abnormal” body? What social, political, and cultural conditions shape and enforce these boundaries? We will investigate literary, philosophical, and medical narratives surrounding the body through sample texts such as *The Sun Also Rises*, *Venus*, and *Between Two Kingdoms*.

Meets: T/Th 12:30-1:45 p.m.

Professor: Chelsea McKelvey

Credits: 3

CRN: 18125



HON 2210

Building Imaginary Worlds

Worldbuilding—creating a complex, fully realized fictional world—is at the heart of sci-fi and fantasy. In this course, we will map the physical, political, historical, and socioeconomic landscapes of imaginary worlds to explore how or why imaginary worlds emulate and deviate from our own world.

Meets: M 5-7:45 p.m.

Professor: April Pelt

Credits: 3

CRN: 12659



HON 2230

A Good Person Speaking Well

This class will focus both on specific speaking skills and practice, but also on ethical and critical questions about what makes a good speaker. In addition to presenting speeches, we will learn about Greek and Roman traditions, as well as ancient traditions from Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

Meets: T/Th 2-3:15 p.m.

Professor: Elizabeth Gilmore

Credits: 3

CRN: 18227



HON 3960*

Solving Global Problems

Pandemics, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, persistent human rights violations, global refugee crisis, food insecurity, climate change, biodiversity loss, and water scarcity are among the most important challenges facing the world today. This course focuses on issues that transcend national boundaries and cannot be resolved by any one country acting alone. The goal is to better understand the dynamics of formal and informal global governance arrangements and what difference they make.

Meets: T/Th 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Professor: Zeynep Taydas Onur

Credits: 3

CRN: 18145

*Note: requires junior/senior standing or instructor permission



HON 3960*

Debunking Dubious Diagnoses

This course explores pseudoscience and scientific misinformation and its effect on society. We will explore how charlatans have used pseudoscience and misinformation to dupe consumers, ways to spot deception, and how to evaluate their claims. We will also explore why pseudoscience is so popular.

Meets: M/W/F 10:10-11 a.m.

Professor: Elliot Ennis

Credits: 3

CRN: 18161

*Note: requires junior/senior standing or instructor permission



HON 3960*

Civil and Human Rights

Various groups have fought for, and secured, civil and human rights in the U.S. and beyond, but that struggle is ongoing for many. This course explores how the civil and human rights we all avail ourselves of today came to fruition and how history has informed the U.S. legal framework as it relates to civil and human rights.

Meets: W 6:15-9 p.m.

Professor: Nadia Aziz

Credits: 3

CRN: 18231

*Note: requires junior/senior standing or instructor permission



HON 3980*

CI: C.C.A.R.E. Special Research

This is a creative inquiry course where students research topics related to mental health/academic success and then create a podcast called In the Spotlight. Students must apply and be selected to participate in this creative inquiry.

Meets: TBD based on student schedules

Professor: Sherece Smith

Credits: 2

CRN: 17013

*Note: requires permission of instructor



HON 3980*

CI: Youth Scholars Program

The Youth Scholars Program (YSP) Creative Inquiry is the primary organizing body for partnership between the Clemson University Honors College and local elementary, middle, and high schools in nearby school districts. CI Members will get hands-on experience with mentoring and tutoring students from 5th-12th grade through bi-weekly school visits during the class time and at various other times throughout the week (flexible times to be determined). Students will also be the primary organizers in strengthening partnerships between larger groups of Clemson students and local schools, through various research endeavors that directly inform programmatic and logistic decisions of the YSP.



Meets: W 2:30-4 p.m.

Professor: Kris Fuller

Credits: 1-3

CRN: 17232

*Note: requires permission of instructor

HON 3980*

CI: Developing Math Puzzles

Students will work within the international Sudoku community to construct puzzles with logical constraints, develop code to augment existing puzzle-setting software used by the world's top constructors, and publish their work in appropriate international venues.

Meets: M/W/F 2:30-3:20 p.m.

Professor: Neil Calkin and Eliza Gallagher

Credits: 1-3

CRN: 18230



HON 3980*

CI: Golf Tournament

If you love sports, have you thought what it would be like to work in the field? This class will give you the opportunity to run a charity golf tournament that will take place on April 4. Students in this CI will manage vendors, golfers, the course, and peers.

Meets: W 10:15-11:55 a.m. and all day Friday, April 4
for golf tournament

Professor: Amanda Cooper Fine

Credits: 3

CRN: 19353



HON 3980*

Capturing Stories

Develop qualitative research skills to collect stories documenting the history of Clemson's Honors College. Learn the importance of storytelling in capturing a more complete history through a book project example that documents the history of women at West Point through stories.

Meets: TBD based on student schedules

Professor: Leslie Lewis

Credits: 2

CRN: 19692

*Note: requires permission of instructor

