



WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

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William Paterson University Honors College Call for Full-time Faculty and Librarians Application to teach an Honors First-Year Research Seminar Course (HON 1000) Proposals due April 10, 2026

Full-time faculty and librarians are invited to submit a proposal to teach a section of HON 1000. This course is intended to expose students to seminar-style learning, and to provide incoming Honors students with an opportunity to experience guided research. The research topic may be a historical or current question, theme, or concept. The point of the course is to guide students through a research experience, which may involve demonstrating how a researcher would investigate a question or showing them an entire research project step-by-step. The theme of the seminar should grow out of the faculty member's research interests, but it should also be accessible to incoming freshmen with no special background in the field. Instructors should aim to guide the first year, first-semester students through a research experience in order to prepare the students to do independent research in future semesters. Instructors are encouraged to incorporate University and Honors College events within the curriculum.

Honors 1000 seminars meet once a week for 50 minutes, for one hour of credit. Faculty earn one-credit of compensation. Grading is pass/fail.

Proposals for Honors 1000 will be welcomed from all full-time faculty and librarians. There will be approximately six sections for the Fall 2026 semester. Faculty with approved proposals from 2022-2025 may submit an updated syllabus only. New proposals must include a completed cover sheet, an application with a proposed syllabus including a description of assignments and an explanation of how the final grade will be calculated, an agreement from the faculty person's department chair and dean, and other relevant information. Note that students must produce individual or group posters that can be shared at a first-year Honors research event at the end of the Fall semester. Include the poster and the poster presentation as part of the final grade. Please email Honors@wpunj.edu for an application packet or download the form from our Resources/Forms page here: <https://www.wpunj.edu/honors-program/resources.html>

Instructions for faculty

Please **read the course outline** (a separate document on the Honors website) and look at the sample syllabi links at the end of the description for samples of similar course syllabi. Then download and complete the cover sheet (a separate document on the Honors website <https://www.wpunj.edu/honors-program/resources.html>), attach a short narrative and a proposed syllabus, and return to Honors@wpunj.edu by April 10.

The three things your proposal needs are:

1. A completed cover sheet with signatures
2. A short narrative
3. A proposed syllabus

What makes an honors course?

In addition to the expectations and student learning outcomes listed in the course outline, we look for honors courses that help students understand how scholars think about problems, formulate and test hypotheses, research those problems, and draw conclusions about them; or help students understand how creative artists approach the creative process, produce an original work, and write about their work. We look for courses that help students become more independent and critical thinkers, demonstrating the ability to use knowledge and logic when discussing an issue or an idea, while considering the consequences of their ideas, for themselves, for others, and for society. To these ends, we are looking for courses that can meet these expectations, outcomes and skills through active and engaged learning. We are interested both in innovative pedagogy and in trusted techniques. Honors courses should require more complex work, not a greater volume of work.

In your application, we ask for the cover sheet, a sample syllabus for the course you propose to teach and a narrative that explains how the course is an honors course, addressing the SLOs and the expectations described.

We also welcome proposals for other honors learning experiences, such as service learning or experiential learning.

Proposal Review:

We will make every effort to review quickly and to match instructor interests with our students' needs. Please note that we may be unable to accommodate all qualified proposals.

Expectations for William Paterson University Honors College Students:

At William Paterson University, Honors College students are given unique learning opportunities. We expect that Honors College students will work closely and collaboratively in multiple settings with exceptionally dedicated and talented peers and mentors. They will appreciate and learn meaningfully about the global and historical backgrounds and current circumstances of diverse groups of people, recognizing the interconnected nature of today's world. They will demonstrate an acceptance of ambiguity and a willingness to explore and think critically about multiple perspectives. They will evince a strong intellectual curiosity and a desire for lifelong learning. Honors College students will give presentations of their research with peers and mentors at events on campus and at regional or national conferences. They will lead and develop campus and community activities. The end of the program is the beginning of an enriched, accomplished and compassionate life.

Questions: Email honors@wpunj.edu or call 973-720-3657