

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY | 2014-2015

# FREDERIK MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE



## LIVE. LEARN. LEAD.

The Meijer Honors College at Grand Valley State University offers academically motivated students like you a distinctive learning community with extraordinary opportunities to engage, develop, and grow as a student, leader, and individual.

The Honors experience will distinguish you when you apply for jobs, fellowships, or graduate school. It will enrich your college experience and energize your life. By offering the advantages of a small college atmosphere with the resources and affordability of a major university, students in the Meijer Honors College are uniquely prepared to live, learn, and lead. Join them.



AMANDA HAUPT, '13, studied abroad in Ghana, Africa, which inspired the Meijer Honors College mathematics major to develop a stage-appropriate curriculum for the education of Ghanaian students who have been rescued from human trafficking.



*“Our goal is to link very real ways of thinking creatively in the world. This model will be something students can use in whatever field they’re learning, practicing, or living.”*

JILL EGGERS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN  
MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBER

## FOCUSED AND FUN

The Meijer Honors College is a learning community where all participants are focused intently on learning and leading, but the atmosphere is supportive, enriching — even fun.

The honors environment fosters nurturing relationships, intellectual discovery, deep learning, and interdisciplinary collaboration. It brings together faculty and staff members and students from varied backgrounds and interests, and encourages interaction and exploration of issues and real-world solutions.

The honors program is decidedly different. The first difference you'll notice is the program of freshman foundational interdisciplinary sequences that fulfill a significant portion of the university's general education requirements. These sequences allow you to dig deeply into a subject through multiple perspectives, participate in collaborative problem-solving, and develop the critical thinking and writing skills that are key to succeeding in today's world.

You'll work hard, but you won't be alone — you'll be a vital part of a fun, active, and tight-knit community. In addition to the vibrant student life at Grand Valley, you'll have access to activities and events especially for honors students, such as cultural experience trips, events like talent shows and game nights, and opportunities to give through service or start initiatives that can make a difference in your world.

## LIFE AT ITS FULLEST

Honors is a learning/living community, meaning that honors students can elect to live together with other honors students and participate more fully in the life of the honors college while still engaging in all that the university as a whole has to offer. The Niemeyer Learning and Living Center, with its apartments, faculty office suite, and state-of-the-art academic facilities, is the headquarters for the college, but there are wonderful options for incoming students to live in honors freshman-only housing that creates rich community. See our website for more detail regarding these options.

The unique delivery of our courses — integrated, active, and often team-taught — creates a special atmosphere where you are challenged to take charge of your own education. Faculty members work with you to answer life's most pressing questions, shape your aspirations, and develop inquiry and research skills. We encourage you to aim high and fulfill your greatest dreams. It's education at its fullest, so you can live life to the fullest.

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Meijer Honors College students take charge of their education the minute they walk in the door and use that knowledge to make local, national, and global impact, such as

- a track and field star who was named a national all-academic three years in a row, completed an internship in a global company, and was offered a full-time job immediately after completing the internship;
- an engineering major who built a cassava grinder for villagers in Ghana and designed a dust collection system for an international office furniture company; and
- a group including a business major, computer science major, and biomedical sciences major that received a Google grant and developed a smart-phone application for midwives in Malawi, Africa.



*“I think students like having the opportunity to ask questions about issues they normally wouldn't be able to discuss in other public situations. It is always my goal to construct each class as a **cooperative dialogue around a central issue.**”*

JEREMIAH CATALDO, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY  
MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBER

# THE HONORS ADVANTAGE

No matter what they do after commencement, Meijer Honors College graduates are quick to understand and appreciate that the challenge, community, and support they felt and received at Grand Valley provides them with a competitive advantage in their careers and a foundation of knowledge that will truly help them enjoy life at its fullest.

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You must be accepted to Grand Valley before you can apply to the Meijer Honors College. Admission to honors is competitive, so you should be ready to provide solid evidence of your aspirations and work ethic. The normal expectation is a 3.5 high school GPA and an ACT score of 28 or above, but more important are your demonstrations of strong academic motivation and ability to achieve on a high level. The application, which is normally completed online, will ask you to demonstrate these through completing a self-assessment, listing your academic and leadership accomplishments, writing a strong essay, and submitting a significant analytical or creative paper that you have written in high school. Go to [www.gvsu.edu/honor](http://www.gvsu.edu/honor) to see the application.

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Meijer Honors College students are eligible to apply for any of the university's merit or needs-based scholarships. In addition, thanks to the generosity of Frederik Meijer, Arend D. and Nancy Lubbers, and others, Meijer Honors College students also are eligible for special academic scholarships, with some receiving full-tuition funding.

For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/scholarships/](http://www.gvsu.edu/scholarships/).



Glenn A. Niemeyer Learning and Living Center



*“If you don’t have research experience, it’s hard to get into graduate school. Grand Valley helped me by encouraging me to do research and giving me the opportunity.”*

KEISHA DURANT HAZEN, CLASS OF 2009  
GEOLOGY MAJOR  
M.S. IN GEOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
EXPLORATION GEOLOGIST, SHELL OIL COMPANY, HOUSTON, TEXAS  
(KEISHA IS WORKING IN THE VIRTUAL REALITY CENTER AT SHELL.)

Meijer Honors College graduates have been employed by nationally renowned organizations like:

- Amazon
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Cargill
- Deloitte
- Ernst and Young
- GE Aviation
- Herman Miller
- Johnson Controls
- U.S. Department of Justice

Meijer Honors Graduates often go on to prestigious graduate schools like:

- George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Texas A&M University
- University of Arizona
- University of Michigan
- University of Washington



Scan this QR code to watch a short honors video or visit [www.gvsu.edu/honorsvideo/](http://www.gvsu.edu/honorsvideo/).

## Admissions Office

1 Campus Drive, Allendale, MI 49401 9403

(616) 331 2025 or (800) 748 0246

Email: [admissions@gvsu.edu](mailto:admissions@gvsu.edu)

Web: [www.gvsu.edu/admissions](http://www.gvsu.edu/admissions)

## Frederik Meijer Honors College

(616) 331-3219

Email: [honors@gvsu.edu](mailto:honors@gvsu.edu)

Web: [www.gvsu.edu/honor](http://www.gvsu.edu/honor)



Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution. It encourages diversity and provides equal opportunity in education, employment, all of its programs, and the use of its facilities. It is committed to protecting the constitutional and statutory civil rights of persons connected with the university. 8/14

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## PASSION IS OUR GREATEST SOURCE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Green is a way of life at Grand Valley. The Sierra Club placed us at the top of the list in Michigan for our care of the environment. And we made the club's annual list of "Coolest Schools" for our commitment to sustainability. From 386 sustainability-related courses to an aggressive recycling program to all new and remodeled construction built to LEED standards, Grand Valley lives its commitment to economic, social, and environmental sustainability every single day.

In support of GVSU's sustainability values, this paper contains fiber from certified, well-managed forests, was produced using certified renewable energy, includes a minimum of 30% postconsumer waste, and was printed locally.

**Please recycle or pass me on.**