



FREDERIK MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
2021-2022

A group of students in blue lab coats are outdoors in a wooded area. In the foreground, a young woman with pink hair in a ponytail is looking down at something in her hands. Behind her, a young man in a grey hoodie looks on. To the left, another student in a blue lab coat is partially visible. The background is filled with green trees and foliage.

LIVE. LEA

The Meijer Honors College at Grand Valley State University offers academically motivated students like you a distinctive learning community and extraordinary opportunities to engage, develop, and grow as a student, leader, and individual. The honors experience will differentiate you when you apply for jobs, fellowships, or graduate school. It will enrich your college experience and energize your life. That's the Laker Effect.

A photograph of a group of people in a forest. In the foreground, a man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a blue jacket and a grey cap, is looking down at a clipboard held by a young woman in a black jacket. Other students in various jackets and caps are visible in the background. The scene is outdoors with trees and foliage.

TURN. LEAD.

Honors professor Peter Wampler at Rosy Mound Natural Area in Grand Haven, studying Lake Michigan dunes with his sophomore level class.

gvsu.edu/honors

DECIDEDLY DIFFERENT DELIVERY

The unique approach of our honors courses — integrated, active, and often team-taught — creates a special atmosphere where you are challenged to take charge of your education.

And since so many honors students choose to live where they learn, like-minded students and faculty offices are usually nearby, providing even more support, community, and opportunity.

“Meijer Honors College delivers GVSU’s academic excellence on a smaller scale and sustains it over the course of our students’ education. Through interdisciplinary teaching, co-curricular programming, and engagement with the larger university, community students get a ‘college in a university’ feel.”

COELI FITZPATRICK // PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY AND
MIDDLE EAST STUDIES // CHAIR OF MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE



THE FOUR KEY DRIVERS OF MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE

Connect

Team taught, connected
courses, issues of interest,
cohort format

Engage

Lectures and performances,
study abroad,
learning/living centers,
student organizations

Deepen

Faculty seminars,
interdisciplinary scope,
academic exploration,
scholarly curiosity

Apply

Student/faculty
research, junior seminar,
senior project

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Students from any major can be part of the Meijer Honors College. Samantha Spurr is majoring in interdisciplinary engineering and minoring in philosophy and loves how the honors program helped keep her courseload manageable while ensuring academic rigor. Spurr also loves how her yearlong co-op with a local medical device company gave her 1,500 hours of

professional, hands-on work experience while getting paid to do it.

Students across all majors recognize the great return on investment of these types of opportunities and know that their time in Meijer Honors College will give them a competitive advantage when they begin their careers.

“Meijer Honors College was one of the main reasons I came to Grand Valley. The students are all very driven, all very academically inclined, and all very responsible. It’s prepared me quite a bit. It’s showed me what I’m good at and what I like.”

SAMANTHA SPURR // CLASS OF 2020
INTERDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING MAJOR // PHILOSOPHY MINOR
HOMETOWN: WOODHAVEN, MI



A COHORT EXPERIENCE

**SMALL COHORT
OF 24 STUDENTS
YOUR FIRST YEAR**

**DEDICATED
HONORS HOUSING**

**HONORS FACULTY
MEMBERS WHO
KNOW YOU
BY NAME**



Meijer Honors College is a learning/living community where all participants are focused on learning and leading in an atmosphere that is supportive, enriching, and fun. It starts your first year where all honors students take two integrated team-taught courses each semester. The same 24 students stay together in those courses with the same teachers all year long, leading to deep and meaningful learning and relationships.

Students can choose to live together in housing that transitions from the traditional campus living arrangements of Holton-Hooker Learning and Living Center as a first-year student to a more focused and independent experience in the Glenn A. Niemeyer Learning and Living Center as they become more immersed in the honors program in subsequent years.





A SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

“Meijer Honors College has been an integral part of my preparation for my professional career. My honors courses made for a great introduction to the field and helped me gain the skills necessary to find, read, understand, and make use of papers in the academic sphere.”

**DEREK TONELLO // CLASS OF 2023
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES MAJOR, CHEMISTRY MINOR**



Grand Valley honors students have opportunities to expand their education outside of the classroom. For many students, this means they are able to fully immerse themselves in their chosen field by conducting research alongside one of Grand Valley's top faculty members. For Derek Tonello, a biomedical sciences major, this meant a one-of-a-kind experience working with Professor Zeni Shabani,

researching genetic predispositions for addiction. By being involved in all aspects of conducting research, from writing and receiving grants, to completing surveys of academic literature, to designing and running experiments, honors students gain valuable insight into the research process and learn skills that will make them attractive to employers and serve them across many disciplines.

**MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE
GRADUATES HAVE
BEEN EMPLOYED BY
NATIONALLY RENOWNED
ORGANIZATIONS:**

- Accenture
- Amazon
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Cargill®
- Deloitte
- Disney Parks and Resorts
- Ernst and Young
- GE Aviation
- Herman Miller
- Johnson Controls
- Operations Systems Technologies (OST)
- Pfizer
- Steelcase™
- Stryker®
- U.S. Department of Justice

**MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE
GRADUATES OFTEN GO ON
TO PRESTIGIOUS GRADUATE
SCHOOLS:**

- Columbia University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Texas A&M University
- The George Washington University
- The University of Arizona
- University of Michigan
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin – Madison

SCHOLARSHIPS

Many 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, some Meijer Honors College students also are eligible for special academic scholarships, with some receiving full-tuition funding.

gvsu.edu/scholarships

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

You must first be accepted to Grand Valley before applying to the Meijer Honors College. We employ a holistic application process, which means we consider the whole student, not just static indicators. In the application, we look for demonstrations of strong academic motivation and ability to achieve on a high level. The application asks students to show these through completing a self-assessment, listing academic and leadership accomplishments, writing a strong essay, and submitting a significant analytical or creative paper from high school. All motivated students are encouraged to apply. If you think you'd like to be part of our learning and living community, please contact us!

gvsu.edu/honors



Honors graduates walk with the honor's sash and medallion to recognize their achievement.

FREDERIK MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE

(616) 331-3219

honors@gvsu.edu

Visit us at gvsu.edu/honors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

1 Campus Drive

Allendale, MI 49401-9403

(616) 331-2025 or (800) 748-0246

admissions@gvsu.edu

Visit us at gvsu.edu/admissions



CERTIFIABLY RESPONSIBLE

We were named one of the Sierra Club's Cool Schools for our commitment to sustainability. And we're at the top of the club's list in Michigan for our care of the environment.

We offer more than 250 sustainability-related courses and run an aggressive recycling program.

All our new and remodeled buildings meet LEED® standards. Even the paper this was printed on contains fiber from certified, responsibly managed forests. It was produced using certified renewable energy, includes a minimum of 10% recycled fiber, and was printed locally.

Please recycle this book. Or, better yet, pass it on.



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. Grand Valley is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that none of its education programs and activities discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX may be referred to Theresa Rowland, Title IX coordinator, 4015 Zumberge Hall, titleix@gvsu.edu, (616) 331-9530. 8/21

© 2021 Grand Valley State University 20-0435

