
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
2019-2020

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 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.

Honor's professor Peter Wampler at Rosy Mound Natural Area in Grand Haven, studying Lake Michigan dunes with his "The Earth, A Global View" 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, likeminded students and faculty offices are usually nearby, providing even more support, community, and opportunity.

“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 THE HONORS COLLEGE

Connect

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

Engage

lectures and performances, study abroad, living/learning 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 course load manageable while ensuring academic rigor. Spurr also loves how her year-long 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 the honors college will give them a competitive advantage when they begin their careers.

“The 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
THAT KNOW
YOU BY NAME**

The Meijer Honors College is a living/learning 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 you become more immersed in the honors program in subsequent years.

A SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

“Being in the honors college put me in thoughtful and challenging classes that broadened my understanding of my community, the way I want to prioritize my life, and the extent to which I want to celebrate diversity.”

RYAN SCHWAAR // CLASS OF 2019 // DANCE, ACCOUNTING,
AND MANAGEMENT MAJOR // HOMETOWN: MUNDELEIN, IL

Grand Valley honors students are leaders by nature. They take charge of their education the minute they walk in the door and use that knowledge to make local, national, and global impact. Consider Ryan Schwaar, a dance, accounting, and management major, who has further pushed himself by studying abroad and being a fellow in the Cook Leadership Academy. This is the interdisciplinary education foundation that prepares honors students to become true leaders who make a difference in our world.

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

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

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

- 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

ADMISSIONS 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. Our normal expectation of high school applicants entering college for the first time is a 3.5 high school GPA and an ACT score of 28 or an SAT score of 1300, but all are encouraged to apply. If you think you'd like to be part of our living and learning community, please contact us!

gvsu.edu/honors



Quinn Griffin, assistant professor of classics, discusses the history of books and the transmission of classical texts with honors students in her Worlds of Greece and Rome course.

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. 8/19

© 2019 Grand Valley State University 18-0861

