



FREDERIK MEIJER HONORS COLLEGE

2018-2019

 GRANDVALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
www.gvsu.edu



LIVE. LEARN. LEAD. LAKER.

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. Combining the advantages of a small college atmosphere with the resources and affordability of a major university ensures students in the Meijer Honors College are uniquely prepared to live, learn and lead.

Honors professor Peter Wampler at Rosy Mound Natural Area in Grand Haven, studying Lake Michigan dunes with his "The Earth, A Global View" class.

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. With help from engaged peers and faculty members, you'll dig deeply into a subject through multiple perspectives, participate in collaborative problem-solving, and develop the critical-thinking and writing skills you'll need to thrive in today's world. And since so many honors students choose to live where they learn, faculty offices are usually nearby, providing even more support and opportunity.

"Honors is a distilled version of all the great things that make up Grand Valley. We deliver excellence on a smaller scale and sustain it over several courses. Our first year replicates the quality of Grand Valley's general education program, but provides it over the course of a year to a cohort of students. That means professors get to know their students very well over a sustained period."

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

BE A PART OF A COMMUNITY

The Meijer Honors College is a learning community where all participants are focused on learning and leading in an atmosphere that is supportive, enriching, and fun — whether on campus or studying abroad.

You'll work hard, but you'll do it as part of an active and tight-knit honors community. You can choose to live with other honors students in state-of-the-art housing that promotes community and deepens it through the months and years. The new Holton-Hooker Learning and Living Center is designed specifically to help first-year students connect, and the Niemeyer Learning and Living Center has well-appointed apartments for students at all stages. Both help you make lasting connections to friends, faculty, and staff.



A group of Frederik Meijer Honors College students studying nonprofit culture and service learning with Professor Scott Stabler in Ghana.

MEIJER HONORS
COLLEGE GRADUATES
HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED
BY NATIONALLY
REKNOWNED
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

LEAD LIKE A LAKER

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. They take advantage of an interdisciplinary education foundation, opportunity for undergraduate research, and cultural experiences on campus and abroad to become true leaders who make a difference in their world.

Ryan Schwaar has made the most of his college experience by engaging in a wide range of learning opportunities. Besides challenging himself in the honors college, Schwaar has studied abroad in Italy and is a fellow with the Cook Leadership Academy — where he has acquired valuable interpersonal skills he uses throughout his life.

“Being in the honors college has put me in a range of philosophical, intentionally thoughtful, challenging, and fast-paced classes that have broadened my understanding of the community I’m in, the way I want to prioritize my life, and the extent to which I want to pursue and celebrate diversity.”

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



THE HONORS ADVANTAGE

Honors works well with any major at GVSU. In fact, Meijer Honors College students in every field graduate on time and quickly see that the challenge, community, and support they experienced at Grand Valley gives them a competitive advantage in their careers, as well as skill and understanding that enriches their lives. That's return on investment that cannot be measured in earnings potential or professional status.

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 be accepted to Grand Valley before you can apply to the Meijer Honors College. Admission to honors is competitive, so you should be prepared to provide solid evidence of your aspirations and work ethic. The normal expectation is an SAT score of 1300 or above (or ACT 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 wrote in high school.

gvsu.edu/honors



SENIOR REFLECTIONS

"The honors college has made me more interested in current events and looking into things from a perspective different than my own. It has opened my mind to the world around me and introduced me to so many other types of people."

- ALICIA GONZALEZ, '18

"Through my experience in the Honors College, I was able to meet individuals who were willing to be able to strive for their goals. I have been exposed to an atmosphere of leaders and innovators willing to strive towards a positive, academically rigorous future."

- HANNAH PATRICK, '18

"I really like the discussion environment that was promoted and all the presentations I had to do. Communication was a weak point for me and the Honors College really helped me start to turn it into a strength."

- TYLER DUNDORE, '18

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Visit us at **gvsu.edu/honors**

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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Visit us at **gvsu.edu/admissions**



CERTIFIABLY RESPONSIBLE

We were named one of the Sierra Club's Coolest 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 200 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% postconsumer waste, 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. 8/18

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