

University Honors and Leadership Program
University of Colorado Denver
Student Handbook



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From the Chancellor ...

Dear UHL Students,

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus and to our University Honors and Leadership program. We're happy you chose to join us as you pursue higher education.

Over the coming years, you will have the option to experience a broad range of educational as well as volunteer, social and internship opportunities. It is my hope you will explore as widely as possible, all the avenues available to you as you discover your own path forward.

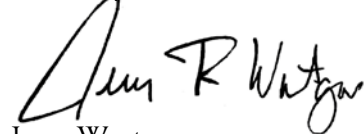
Two of the major ways you can begin this exploration outside your classroom activities are through the UHL Student Club, which provides student-driven social and service options, and through the UHL Student Research Fellows program, which provides a variety of research-based learning opportunities.

You join a select group of student scholars who have shown particular skill in leadership, scholarship and citizenship. I know that your talents in these areas will continue to grow through your work with the UHL program.

In addition to the programs listed above I encourage you to also participate in the UHL Chancellor's Ambassadors Program. As a university ambassador, you'll be asked to attend various university events and serve as a representative of the Chancellor's office. These events will allow you to sharpen your networking skills and to meet a number of important individuals from our internal and external university community. As a university ambassador, you will be given the important task of representing our institution. We are proud to have you in this role.

Again, welcome to CU Denver and the UHL program. I'm looking forward to getting to know each one of you in the coming months as you embark on your next steps in your educational journey. We value your presence and look forward to making you feel at home.

Sincerely,



Jerry Wartgow
Chancellor



From the UHL Director ...

I am very pleased to be able to welcome you to the University of Colorado Denver's University Honors and Leadership Program. Whether you are new to the UHL program or a returning student, I hope that you will find the 2011-12 academic year filled with opportunities, challenges, and new relationships that help you to grow as a student and as a person.

The UHL program combines the benefits of a small liberal arts college with the opportunities available at a major research university. Our small class sizes and the close relationships that can be formed with professors and fellow students provide a stimulating intellectual environment within which to further your education. UHL's unique combination of a traditional academic honors program and honors-level leadership education provides UHL students with educational possibilities that can be found at few other colleges and universities. Meanwhile, the multidisciplinary nature of our curriculum provides you, as a UHL student, with a broad-based platform from which to think about and understand the world around you. Though still very young, the UHL program is loaded with exciting possibilities and potential, and the University's commitment to making UHL a signature component of its undergraduate program portends a very bright future.



The UHL experience has many facets and I encourage you to immerse yourself in as many of them as you can. You will find here a cadre of exceptional faculty members eager to teach in the program and to get to know you—the students—who are at the heart of what the UHL program is all about. Our course offerings are, without exception, courses in which I would love to be a student myself. The relationships that you will form with your fellow UHL students will prove invaluable during your time at CU Denver and, I trust, beyond it. The UHL Student Research Fellows program, the UHL Student Advisory Board, and the UHL Student Club offer UHL students opportunities to further immerse themselves in the life of UHL and of the University at large, as well as to “give back” in a variety of ways. The students in our entering class possess an amazing variety of gifts, from mathematics and science to creative writing to music and the fine arts, and I encourage you to use this program and your entire CU Denver experience to help you develop them to the fullest.

The expectations of UHL students are high, both in the classroom and beyond. As representatives of and ambassadors for the UHL program both within and outside of the walls of the University, I have every confidence that each of you will not only meet, but exceed these expectations.

I look forward to personally welcoming each of you to campus in the coming weeks. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you would like to sit down for a chat about the UHL program, your life at CU Denver, or anything else that is on your mind.

Steven G. Medema
Director, UHL Program

What is UHL?

Mission Statement: *The University Honors and Leadership program integrates rigorous programs of academic excellence and leadership education in order to develop the gifts of the next generation of leaders in academia, business, policymaking, and service to communities local, national, and global.*



University Honors and Leadership (UHL) is a program of excellence designed for outstanding students who have demonstrated superior achievement in academic performance and/or possess outstanding leadership qualities. The program is founded on the premise that the integration of rigorous programs of academic excellence and leadership education provides the ideal environment in which to develop the gifts of the next generation of leaders in academia, business, policymaking, and service to communities local, national, and global.

The UHL program is unique in integrating academic honors and leadership education within a highly selective learning community of outstanding students and faculty. The UHL program allows students to complement their major field of study with a traditional honors experience in the Academic Honors track or an honors-level program of leadership education in the Leadership Studies track. Students move through the UHL program in cohorts that simultaneously promote community, teamwork, and individual initiative.

All of the UHL courses are multidisciplinary, reflecting our view that the ability to effectively analyze the challenges faced by society can be enhanced by the integration of information drawn from a broad base of perspectives and problem-solving skills. The UHL program complements this with an emphasis on the development of exceptional oral and written communication skills, projects that steep the students in sophisticated research methods, and the opportunity to work in teams to solve practical problems in the community.

UHL courses are offered in small, seminar-style formats, with enrollments capped at 20 students. The small class sizes facilitate the exchange of ideas, close contact between students and faculty members, and a combination of individual and communal learning—all of which are important for the student’s academic development.

The UHL experience goes well beyond the classroom. UHL students have the opportunity to participate in research and leadership experiences tailored to their intellectual and career goals. International education opportunities allow UHL students to immerse themselves in the language, life, and culture of other nations. Students are also given the opportunity to “give back” to the University and the community through the Chancellor’s Ambassadors program and other service opportunities. And, of course, UHL students participate in a unique intellectual and social community that offers experiences and rewards that they will carry with them through their time at CU Denver and beyond.

The UHL Academic Program

UHL is a multidisciplinary cohort program consisting of 27 credit hours of coursework to be completed over four years. The UHL courses satisfy most of the CU Denver general core curriculum requirements and can, therefore, be completed in tandem with any of the four-year undergraduate degree programs offered at CU Denver.

Within the program, students are given the opportunity to pursue a traditional honors experience through the Academic Honors track or to focus on leadership education through the Leadership Studies track. All students have a common first year experience. The second and third years of the UHL program offer courses designed specifically for the Academic Honors and Leadership Studies tracks. In the fourth year, UHL students come together again for a culminating two-semester capstone research seminar.

The UHL Core: Years 1 and 4

UHL courses are taught in a learner-centered environment with continuous faculty and student engagement. Students actively hone their ability to think critically by analyzing issues from alternative perspectives and points of view. The coursework during the first year aims to educate students in the intellectual, social and personal skills needed to excel in an increasingly diverse, global and technologically complex society and is complemented by a weekly seminar series which brings in speakers from the worlds of academia, business, government, and beyond to address topics that run the gamut from the hot-button policy issues of the moment to the latest in scientific discovery. The UHL Core includes:

First year courses:

- UNHL 1100: Introduction to UHL (3 credit hours)
- UNHL 2755: UHL Seminar (two semesters at 1 credit hour each)
- ENGL 2030-UNHL: Core Composition II (3 credit hours)¹

Fourth year courses:

- UNHL 4991: UHL Senior Research Seminar I (2 credit hours)
- UNHL 4992: UHL Senior Research Seminar II (2 credit hours)

The two-semester UHL Senior Research Seminar capstone course represents the culmination of the students' undergraduate experience and synthesizes and extends themes from their interdisciplinary UHL education. It is meant to provide the UHL students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge, experience, and skills by working together in teams on projects that call for their collective intellectual, analytical, and leadership talents.

¹ UHL students who have previously received credit for ENGL 2030 or the equivalent will not receive additional CU Denver credit for ENGL 2030 and so are not required to take the UHL section of this course. Students who believe that they are exempt from the ENGL 2030 requirement should meet with the UHL advisor to confirm this exemption. Students who are exempt from the ENGL 2030 requirement are expected to complete the remainder of the UHL program as scheduled.

Track Specialization: Years 2 and 3

During the 2nd and 3rd years, students pursue either the Academic Honors or the Leadership Studies track within the UHL program. Each semester a variety of courses within each track are offered by the UHL faculty. In order to ensure flexibility and the broadest selection of topics, an additional number of UHL courses are listed as hybrid, which means that they may be counted toward either track.

Academic Honors Track Requirements

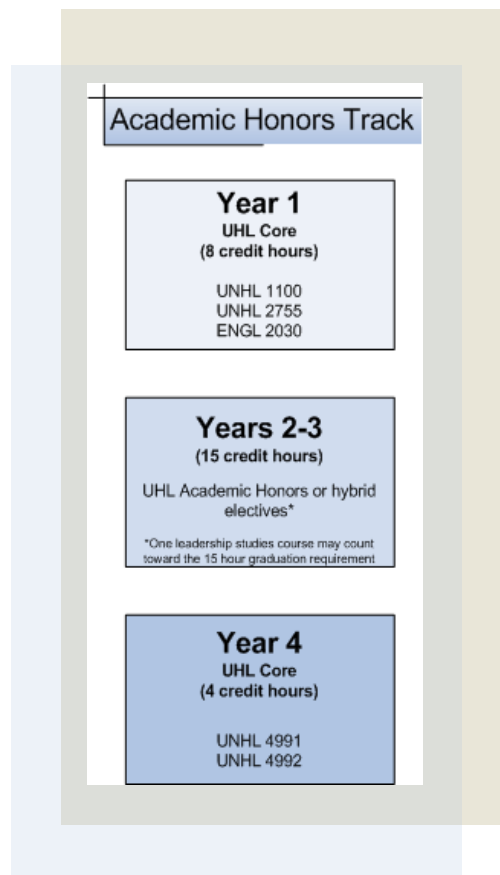
The Academic Honors track offers a unique program for outstanding students entering CU Denver. This track provides a rigorous academic experience to complement the student's major, provides an environment for life-long learning, and promotes self-discovery. Students are exposed to complex problems, competing perspectives, and differing approaches to important topics. Undergraduate research is emphasized in the Academic Honors track to prepare students for graduate school or any post-baccalaureate professional program.

The second and third years of the Academic Honors program develop students' core knowledge areas through the integration of humanities, arts, science, behavioral and social science, international perspectives and cultural diversity by way of multidisciplinary courses where students are exposed to multidimensional issues. As they continue to build and broaden their communication, analytical and critical thinking skills, students learn to apply knowledge to new areas, expand their view of the world, and develop sensitivity to and appreciation of the arts, diversity, and a global society.

The Minor in Multidisciplinary Research Methods

Students pursuing the Academic Honors Track have the opportunity to earn a minor in "Multidisciplinary Research Methods." The requirements for this minor are as follows:

1. Satisfaction of UHL Core requirements
2. Successful completion of four (4) Academic Honors Track (UNHL 3400- 3799, 4400-4799) or Hybrid (UNHL 3800-3999, 4800-4999) electives (12 hours)
3. The successful completion of an honors research project in the UHL Senior Research Seminar



Minimum GPA: To receive the minor, students are required to complete their required coursework with a minimum overall GPA of 3.30 in courses applied toward the minor. No grade below 2.70 will count for the minor.

Note: Hybrid (UNHL 3800-3999) courses applied toward the minor in Multidisciplinary Research Methods may *not* be applied toward the minor in Leadership Studies, should the student choose to pursue both of the UHL minors.

Leadership Studies Track Requirements

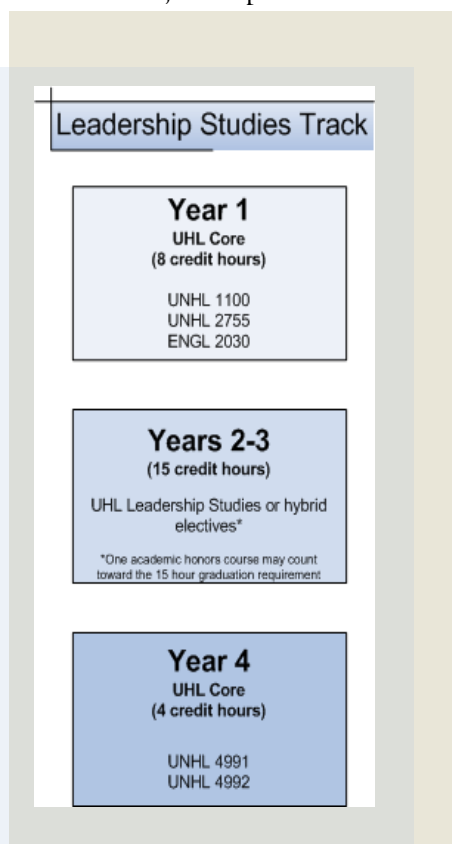
The Leadership Studies track is designed to develop skills and experiences that will prepare students for the challenges of leadership in corporate, institutional, and public life. Leadership Studies track students work together to develop their abilities to meet the challenges of a world characterized by the increasing globalization of leadership responsibilities and the rapid change in what leaders need to learn and know. They confront complex issues, individually and in teams, while taking responsibility for becoming lifelong learners.

Students develop their leadership potential through self-guided learning strategies, practical team projects, theory-based seminars, contact with outstanding leaders, and individualized mentoring. The Leadership Studies track is designed to create a collaborative learning environment where students work in action-oriented teams on innovative solutions to practical issues.

The Minor in Leadership Studies

Students pursuing the Leadership Studies Track have the opportunity to earn a minor in “Leadership Studies.” The requirements for this minor are as follows:

1. Satisfaction of UHL Core requirements
2. Successful completion of four (4) Leadership Studies Track (UNHL 3000-3399, 4000-4399) or Hybrid (UNHL 3800-3999, 4800-4999) electives (12 hours), *no more than six (6) hours of which are Hybrid (UNHL 3800-3999, 4800-4999) courses*
3. The successful completion of an honors research project in the UHL Senior Research Seminar



Minimum GPA: To receive the minor, students are required to complete their required coursework with a minimum overall GPA of 3.30 in courses applied toward the minor. No grade below 2.70 will count for the minor.

Note: Hybrid (UNHL 3800-3999) courses applied toward the minor in Leadership Studies may *not* be applied toward the minor in Multidisciplinary Research Methods, should the student choose to pursue both of the UHL minors.

Advising

UHL students are able to satisfy most of their CU Denver core curriculum requirements through their UHL coursework. Each student's path through the UHL program is a function of several factors, including the student's chosen "track" and the university-level coursework completed both at CU Denver and prior to enrollment at CU Denver (including AP courses). To ensure that you are on track to satisfy the requirements of the UHL program, the CU Denver core, and your major program of study, you should meet regularly with the UHL advising staff, your school/college advisor, and your major program advisor. When meeting with college and major program advisors, it is essential that you identify yourself as a UHL student.

Priority Registration

Among the many benefits available to UHL students, perhaps the most coveted is priority registration. This privilege allows UHL students to be among the first to register for classes each semester.





UHL Courses

UHL courses are interdisciplinary and are designed to encourage students to develop a complex and broad-based intellectual approach to the subject matter. Many UHL courses are team-taught by professors from different disciplines and aim to engage the students' written, oral and analytical skills in a multi-faceted approach to the subject matter. These seminar-style courses, with enrollments capped at 20 students, create a classroom environment in which active student participation is expected.

UHL courses are taught by a cadre of outstanding professors who are dedicated to promoting excellence in undergraduate education. The UHL faculty are not only terrific teachers—many of them are also engaged in cutting-edge research in their fields and are regularly called upon to provide their expertise to serve the larger community in which they live and work.

The UHL coursework is complemented by a weekly Speaker Series (nicknamed the “Blow Your Mind” Seminar) that brings in speakers from the worlds of academia, business, government, and beyond to address topics that run the gamut from the hot-button policy issues of the moment to the latest in scientific discovery.

UHL students have the opportunity to participate in, and receive academic credit for, independent study, internships, and faculty-mentored research under the auspices of the UHL program. These courses may not be counted toward the 27 hours required for UHL certification but can be applied toward the CU Denver graduation requirements.

All UHL students must complete the two-semester UHL Senior Research Seminar course. This capstone course is the culmination of the UHL students' undergraduate experience and synthesizes and extends themes from their interdisciplinary UHL education. It is meant to provide the UHL students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge, experience, and skills by working together in teams on projects that call for their collective intellectual, analytical, and leadership talents.

UHL Course Numbering System

All UHL course offerings after the first-year foundational classes are taught as 3000 or 4000 level courses. The second digit in UHL course numbers 3000 and above designates the course as a Leadership Studies track course, Academic Honors track course, or as a Hybrid (a course that can be counted toward either of the tracks).

- **Leadership Studies** track course numbers have second digits ranging from 0 to 3 (e.g., UNHL 3005, UNHL 4240).
- **Academic Honors** track course numbers have second digits ranging from 4 to 7 (e.g., UNHL 3502, UNHL 3620).
- The **Hybrid** courses have second digits ranging from 8 to 9 (e.g., UNHL 3810, UNHL 3965). These courses may be counted toward either Academic Honors or Leadership Studies track requirements.

UHL Course Offerings

UNHL 1100 Introduction to University Honors and Leadership

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: Acceptance to UHL program

Course Type: UHL Core

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Natural Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

The UHL program was developed with the goal of creating scholars with leadership skills to communicate their ideas and strong leaders with the ability to think critically, analyze issues from alternate perspectives and develop and communicate plausible solutions that take into consideration all points of view; the ideal end result of the program would be intelligent, ethical leaders and scholars in multiple fields of endeavor. Each of the topics covered in the course allows multiple facets of a university education in the old sense to be explored, from philosophy, history and art to chemistry, physics and engineering. There will be multiple means of exploration for each of these topics, from lectures and in-class discussions to field trips and engagement activities; there will be writing assignments in every phase that will focus on writing skills and writing for different audiences.

UNHL 2755 UHL Seminar

Credit Hours: 1

Prereq: Acceptance to UHL program

Course Type: UHL Core

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Natural Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

University faculty, community leaders, and representatives of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations will address the UHL seminar on a wide variety of topics. The seminar exposes UHL students to many different issues, attitudes, problems, careers, and activities. Enrollment is limited to first-year UHL students, who must enroll in both the fall and spring semesters.

ENGL 2030 Core Composition II (Designated UHL Sections)

Credit Hours: 3
Prereq: UNHL 1100
Course Type: UHL Core

This course focuses on academic and other types of research-based writing and builds on the work completed in ENGL 1020. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, reading and writing, as well as working with primary and secondary source material in both print- and electronic-based formats to produce a variety of research-based essays.

UNHL 2840 Independent Study

Credit Hours: 1-6
Prereq: UNHL 1100
Course Type: Hybrid (may be counted toward either track)
Core Areas: Varies according to course content

UNHL 2870 Intensive Spanish

Credit Hours: 3
Prereq: UNHL 1100, Span 1020, placement exam, or permission of instructor
Course Type: UHL Core
Core Areas: While this course does not count toward the 27 hours required for UHL graduation, it will provide "International Perspectives" exposure and thus help to satisfy this aspect of core requirements.

This course combines both semesters of second-year Spanish in an intensive course for UHL students. This course, however, does not count toward the 27 hours required for UHL graduation

UNHL 2939 Internship

Credit Hours: 1-3
Prereq: UNHL 1100, cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above and permission of the UHL Director

UHL internships establish a bridge between theoretical knowledge and practice. Primary emphasis is placed on internships focusing on problem-based learning, team learning, leadership education, and interdisciplinary learning relevant to the UHL curriculum. An internship represents a serious work experience that demands professionalism and a significant time commitment.

UNHL 3010 Leadership Behavior: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Credit Hours: 3
Prereq: UNHL 1100
Course Type: Leadership Studies Track
Core Areas: Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

This course will provide students with an opportunity to integrate historical and contemporary issues in the study of leadership behavior. The course is based on leadership research and writing that reveals the leader as facilitator, collaborator, servant, and follower. The course will provide students with an opportunity to reflect, discuss, and write on topics and questions related to leadership and followership behavior.

UNHL 3100 Ethics and Leadership: An Introduction

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100; not open to students who have taken UNHL 3503

Course Type: Leadership Studies Track

Core Areas: Humanities, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

This ethics and leadership course will introduce students to the best leadership theories and their application to current ethical issues.

UNHL 3110 Leadership, Communication, and Conflict

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Leadership Studies Track

Core Areas: Behavioral Science, Social Science, International Perspectives

Organizations and institutions must consistently adapt to changing environments in order to survive. According to Eisenberg, Goodall, and Trethewey (2008) "velocity" is the key phrase in understanding how knowledge and learning coincide to create sustainable organizations. Leading organizations must therefore include models of leadership and communication that create and reflect changing environmental complexities. Such leadership must include frameworks and theories that embrace change and the strategies that inevitably follow. However, leaders also spend a significant amount of time managing conflict. This course, therefore, is designed to explore the practical and theoretical basis of conflict and communication, and seeks to examine critical leadership processes that lead to the increased likelihood of organizational survival through successful conflict management.

UNHL 3120 Leading for Change

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Leadership Studies Track

Core Areas: Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

This course examines the qualities and practices that make for effective change leadership. Using case studies, we focus on exemplary adaptive leaders from different sectors and cultures, examining the role they play in facilitating problem solving and change management. The course also examines the use of emotional intelligence in the work of adaptive leadership.

UNHL 3250 Leadership and Sustainability

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Leadership Studies Track

Core Areas: Natural Science, Social Science, International Perspectives

This course examines issues of sustainability and the leadership challenges associated with the creation of sustainable social structures. Topics covered include a wide range of sustainability concerns such as: global population and food scarcity, alternative fuels and energy systems, biological and human health, leadership and sustainability program development, and symbolic and media representations of sustainability.

UNHL 3310 Innovation, Cutting Edge Knowledge, and Self Guided Learning

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Leadership Studies Track

Core Areas: Arts, Natural Sciences, Humanities, Social Science, Behavioral Science, International Perspectives

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with cutting edge knowledge in major scientific and technological fields, against the background of cultural and artistic creativity, and to establish habits of life long, self guided learning. To enhance this process, relevant faculty will be invited to speak about innovation in their field, both in class and during the planned panel discussion.

UNHL 3501 Love and Death in the Greek Classics

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Academic Honors Track

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Social Science, International Perspectives

This course introduces students to classical Greek literature, focusing on love and death in Homeric epic, lyric poetry, tragic drama, the history and social science of Thucydides, the comedies of Aristophanes, and Plato's philosophical dialogues.

UNHL 3502 The History and Literature of Science in the 19th Century

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Academic Honors

Core Areas: Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science, International Perspectives

Students will examine the literature of the 19th century, the history of science in that period, and how those works and that history impact how we think about science today.

UNHL 3503 Ethics, Academic Integrity, and Social Responsibility

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100; not open to students who have taken UNHL 3100

Course Type: Academic Honors Track

Core Areas: Humanities, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

This course combines research and class discussions in such a way that theories, viewpoints, and practical proposals regarding ethics and its application to intellectual responsibility are understood in their own right as well as in relation to human activities. One daunting task will be facing up to the challenge of how to use the increasingly powerful information tools provided by universities. In the last third of the semester, students will be asked to work in teams on projects dealing with current ethics controversies.

UNHL 3610 Neuroscience and Society

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Academic Honors Track

Core Areas: Behavioral Science, Social Science, Natural Science

Science has provided tantalizing glimpses into the nature of human beings and the groups in which they live. This course will explore these matters in a way that encourages critical analysis of the relationship between our brains and the world. In the process, we will focus on the scientific method itself and its standing in relation to faith, ideology, and sociopolitical attitudes.

UNHL 3620 Migration, Modernity, and Literacy

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Academic Honors Track

Core Areas: Humanities, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

An examination of the causes, consequences, difficulties, and enduring problems of migration in contemporary global society. Political, legal, and educational problems of modernity and mass migration are analyzed. Course work includes social scientific research into historical and contemporary migration flows.

UNHL 3810 Understanding and Dealing with Uncertainty

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Hybrid (may be counted toward either track)

Core Areas: Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science

What is uncertainty? How does it relate to other notions such as ignorance, variation, or risk? How do we deal with uncertainty? In this course, we'll consider ideas from mathematics (proofs and probability) and limits on those ideas, as well as uncertainty in science, philosophy, religion, law, and psychology, among other fields. Students will be required to develop their own ideas on uncertainty in written form and/or participate in group presentations.

UNHL 3815 Life in the Information Age

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Hybrid (may be counted toward either track)

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

Chart the contours, contradictions, and challenges of life in the Information Age. Adopting the perspective of techno-capitalism, explore how advances in communication technologies and changes in our economic system are altering our daily lives. Although radical change is always disruptive and disorienting, this course does not naively deny or pessimistically lament these changes. Rather, it chooses to focus on how persons can confront, address, adapt to, and excel in our rapidly changing world.

UNHL 3820 The Economics of Life

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Hybrid (May be counted toward either track)

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Behavioral Science, Social Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

Study of the economic approach to human behavior and its application to the analysis of markets and areas including politics, law, family life, and other social issues. Students will develop an understanding of how the economic approach differs from other approaches to analyzing these phenomena and of its possibilities and limitations.

UNHL 3870 History and Culture of the Spanish-Speaking World

Credit Hours: 3

Prereqs: UNHL 1100; UNHL 2870, SPAN 2120 or demonstration of second-year Spanish language proficiency through placement exam

Course Type: Hybrid (May be counted toward either track)

Core Areas: Arts, Humanities, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

A study of the history, culture, politics, and social environment of Spain and/or the Spanish-speaking world. Topics determined by instructor.

UNHL 3939 UHL Internship

Credit Hours: 1-3

Prereq: UNHL 1100, cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, and permission of the UHL Director

UHL internships establish a bridge between theoretical knowledge and practice. Primary emphasis is placed on internships focusing on problem-based learning, team learning, leadership education, and interdisciplinary learning relevant to the UHL curriculum. An internship represents a serious work experience that demands professionalism and a significant time commitment.

UNHL 3995 Study Abroad

Credit Hours: 3

Course Type: Hybrid (may be counted toward either track)

UNHL 4410 Biology and Politics

Credit Hours: 3

Prereq: UNHL 1100

Course Type: Academic Honors Track

Core Areas: Social Science, Natural Science, Humanities, Behavioral Science, Cultural Diversity, International Perspectives

This course explores the reciprocal and dynamic relationships between biology and politics. On the one hand, to what degree do our genes and biological development shape our political attitudes and behavior? On the other hand, how do public policies affect human and animal biology and the ecology of the earth? Why do some people regard biological explanations of political phenomena as “politically incorrect”? Does human nature make war inevitable? To what degree are racial and gender differences based on nature versus nurture? Students will be encouraged to raise their own questions about this complex and timely topic. Pedagogy will be multimedia and interactive.

UNHL 4840 Independent Study

Credit Hours: 1-6
Prereq: UNHL 1100

Independent study offers students the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty in an area of shared scholarship through directed readings (scholarly projects driven by specific texts).

UNHL 4850 Faculty-Mentored Research

Credit Hours: 1-6
Prereq: UNHL 1100 and permission of sponsoring faculty mentor and UHL Director

UHL student research conducted under the supervision of CU Denver faculty.

UNHL 4991 UHL Senior Research Seminar I

Credit Hours: 2
Prereq: UHL Senior standing

Capstone experience for UHL program - fall semester. Students will work in teams on research projects of a multidisciplinary nature.

UNHL 4992 UHL Senior Research Seminar II

Credit Hours: 2
Prereq: UHL Senior standing

Capstone experience for UHL program - spring semester. Students will work in teams on research projects of a multidisciplinary nature.



Degree Progress and Graduation Requirements

UHL students are required to satisfy certain minimum academic standards as a condition of their continued participation in the UHL program and in order to graduate from CU Denver with the appropriate UHL designation.

Maintaining “Good Standing” in the UHL Program

Academic standards:

UHL students are required to maintain certain minimum academic standards as a condition of their continued participation in the UHL program and in order to graduate from CU Denver with the appropriate UHL designation.

- UHL students are required to maintain a 3.00 GPA in their UHL courses and a 3.25 cumulative GPA at CU Denver in order to remain in good standing in the UHL program. Each UHL student’s grades will be reviewed at the end of each fall and spring semester.
- Students who fail to meet these GPA requirements will be put on probation for one semester. A letter will be sent informing the student of this change in status.
 - If the student has not achieved good standing in the program at the end of the probationary semester, the student will remain on probation for a second semester and will lose the UHL scholarship for that semester.
 - If, at the end of this second semester of probation, the student has not achieved good standing in the program, the student will not be allowed to continue in the UHL program.
 - If the student returns to good standing within the program and is then placed on probation again in a subsequent semester, the student will lose the UHL scholarship for that semester and must return to good standing the following semester to remain in the program.
- Students on UHL probation are not eligible to apply for UHL Student Research Fellowships.
- Any student placed on academic probation by the University of Colorado Denver (GPA below 2.0) will be automatically removed from the UHL program.

Steady and consistent progress within the program:

UHL is a four-year multidisciplinary cohort program consisting of 27 credit hours of coursework. In order to remain in good standing, UHL students are required to follow the program schedule as outlined below and make consistent progress towards completion.

- Year 1: Completion of UNHL 1100, UNHL 2755 (two semesters), and ENGL 2030-UNHL (or equivalent)
- Years 2 and 3: Completion of five UHL elective courses. Students are expected to enroll in at least one UHL class during the fall and spring semesters. Deviations from this requirement must be approved by the UHL Director. Once a student has completed five UHL elective courses, he/she need not enroll in another UHL elective course.
- Year 4: Completion of UNHL 4991 and 4992.

Failure to enroll in UHL classes for two consecutive fall/spring semesters without approval of the UHL Director may result in removal from the UHL program. Students in this category will be sent a letter informing them of their status.

Full-time registration status:

UHL students must be enrolled at CU Denver on a full-time basis (at least 12 hours of coursework each fall and spring semester) in order to receive the UHL scholarship and remain in good standing in the UHL Program for that semester.

In the event that a student's registration falls below 12 hours in the middle of the semester, the UHL program reserves the right to reduce or revoke the UHL scholarship for that semester.

Leave of absence:

A student who wishes to take a break from his/her studies for religious or health reasons may petition the UHL Director in writing for a leave of absence from the program. The Director will work with the student to determine the terms and length of the leave.

Observance of the CU Denver Honor Code:

Any action which violates a provision of the University of Colorado Denver Honor Code will be grounds for dismissal from the UHL Program, subsequent to review by the UHL Student Advisory Board and the UHL Steering Committee. The student may appeal this decision or may subsequently apply for readmission to the UHL program. Whenever the violation results in suspension or expulsion from the University of Colorado Denver, the student is not eligible for subsequent reinstatement to the UHL program.



UHL participation:

One of the purposes of the UHL program is to have a positive influence on the University of Colorado Denver community. As a member of the UHL program, you will be invited to participate in UHL and university-sponsored service activities throughout the academic year. It is expected that *all* UHL students will, on occasion, avail themselves of these opportunities for service.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate with “University Honors,” students are required to satisfy the course and credit-hour requirements specified elsewhere in this Handbook and must have a GPA of 3.50 or higher in their UHL courses. Requirements for graduation with the appropriate UHL minor are listed elsewhere in this Handbook. No grade below B- (2.70) in a UHL course will count toward the UHL graduation requirements.

UHL Student Research Fellows

Providing opportunities for UHL students to engage in research projects with outstanding faculty members is a core component of the UHL educational mission. Students benefit from immersion in the research methods of their chosen field of study, the opportunity to work closely with a faculty mentor, and learning to write and present research results for public dissemination. These experiences not only enhance the student's educational experience during their time at the University, but also provide significant benefits on the job market and in gaining admission to top graduate programs.

The UHL Student Research Fellows program has been established to promote and support research opportunities for UHL students. The program assists interested UHL students in identifying sponsoring faculty members and research projects in their areas of interest and provides funding in support of this process. The number of UHL Student Research Fellows grants is limited, and awards are determined through a competitive selection process. **The maximum Fellowship award is \$1000 per academic year.**

The UHL Director and the UHL Steering Committee will attempt to match UHL students who are interested in working on research projects with appropriate faculty mentors, and calls for applications to the Fellows program will go out from the UHL office at various times throughout the year. Student interested in participating in the Fellows program are welcome to speak with the UHL Director about potential opportunities at any time. UHL students (particularly those who have been designated as Fellows in the past) are particularly encouraged to work with their faculty mentors to apply for the CU Denver “Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program” (UROP). The UROP program provides students with funding to support more independent research by the student (under the guidance of a faculty mentor). The Office of Undergraduate Experiences issues a call for UROP applications early in the spring semester of each academic year.

For further information about the UHL Student Research Fellows program, UROP, or undergraduate research in general, please contact Steven Medema, UHL Director.



Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

Scholarships

All UHL students receive a base scholarship of \$2,000 per year for four years, provided by the University of Colorado Denver, and conditioned upon maintaining good standing in the UHL program and full-time enrollment (12 credit hours or more per semester) at CU Denver. Scholarship monies are credited to the student's CU Denver tuition account just prior to the fall and spring semesters (\$1,000 per semester).

UHL students are also eligible for a range of other UHL-administered scholarships, the numbers of which are continually growing thanks to the generosity of many UHL program supporters.

FirstBank Scholarships

FirstBank annually awards a scholarship of \$2,000 per year for four years to two incoming UHL freshmen from the state of Colorado. Candidates for this scholarship are asked to submit a financial statement as part of the scholarship application process.

El Pomar Foundation Scholarships

The El Pomar Foundation annually awards several \$2,000 scholarships to UHL students. Scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of demonstrated leadership ability and high scholastic aptitude. The scholarship recipients are required to attend three El Pomar weekend events during the school year and complete an annual team project.

Other CU Denver Scholarship Programs

UHL students may also be eligible for a variety of University of Colorado Denver scholarship programs. A complete list of scholarships offered at the CU Denver Downtown Campus can be found on the CU Denver Scholarship Resource Office website.² There are also a number of internet search programs that can assist students in identifying scholarships for which they may be eligible, including www.FastWeb.com.

<http://ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/Scholarships/Pages/default.aspx>

UHL Student Research Fellowships

As part of its ongoing effort to promote and support research opportunities for UHL students, the UHL program offers a limited number of UHL Student Research Fellowships each year. These fellowships provide up to \$1,000 of support to students who are engaged in sophisticated research projects with CU Denver faculty mentors. Further information about the UHL Student Research Fellows program can be found on page 19 of this Handbook.

UHL Outstanding Graduate Awards

Each year, one graduating student from the Academic Honors track and one graduating student from the Leadership Studies track will be designated with the UHL Outstanding Graduate Award. The Outstanding Graduate Awards are based on the student's academic accomplishments at CU Denver, with particular attention paid to the student's performance in the UHL program.

UHL House

The UHL House, located at 1047 Ninth Street Park on the Auraria Campus, is the academic, administrative, and social hub of the UHL program. Its peaceful setting and quaint Victorian charm make it an attractive place for students to hang out. The house is furnished with three Apple iMac and two PC computers, a fridge and microwave, and comfortable chairs and sofas for relaxing with other students. The broad grassy lawns are ideal for tossing around a ball or Frisbee.



Expectations of UHL Students

Fundamental Principles of a Liberal Education

One of the hallmarks of a liberal education –“liberal” meaning “directed to general intellectual enlargement and refinement” – is that it establishes the foundation for civic engagement in a climate of mutual respect and intellectual rigor. The cultivation of such an environment is a guiding principle of the UHL program, and all UHL students are expected to comport themselves in a manner that upholds this essential element of academic culture.

Commitment to principles of academic integrity, intellectual exploration, tolerance, and mutual respect are expected of all students and faculty who participate in the UHL program and one’s participation in the life of UHL constitutes your commitment to both uphold and promote these principles.

Academic Honesty

Academic life at CU Denver, and thus within the UHL program, is governed by the CU Denver Honor Code.³ All UHL students are expected to be familiar with it. Violation of the CU Denver Honor Code may result in suspension or dismissal from the UHL program.



“Fridays at UHL”

Representing the UHL program appropriately takes a variety of forms. While the UHL program does not subscribe to the old dictum that “the clothes make the man,” we do believe that it is important to dress in a manner appropriate to the circumstances. With this in mind, UHL students are expected to wear “business casual” attire for the UHL Seminars on Friday afternoons, as a show of respect for our guest speakers.

Giving Back: The UHL Chancellor’s Ambassadors Program

The UHL Chancellor’s Ambassadors Program provides an opportunity for UHL students to give back to the University. Chancellor’s Ambassadors serve as student representatives of the Chancellor’s office, and thus of the University as a whole, at a variety of University events throughout the year. These events are used primarily for University outreach and promotion and are held at the Chancellor’s residence and various locations around the Denver metropolitan area.

³ See <http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/content.php?catoid=1&navoid=24&bc=1>.

The Chancellor's Ambassadors also have the opportunity to assist with the CU Denver Commencement.

The Chancellor's Ambassadors program is an integral part of the University's and the UHL program's interaction with the citizens of Colorado. Events typically supported by the Chancellor's Ambassadors are attended by a variety of civic leaders from both inside and outside the University, and the presence of UHL Chancellor's Ambassadors allows these community leaders to have contact with some of CU Denver's best students. UHL students also benefit significantly from the Chancellor's Ambassadors Program. Each student will have the opportunity to develop and practice their networking skills through service to the University. In the process, students will be able to form connections with leaders drawn from the University and the larger community.

Students participating in the UHL Chancellor's Ambassadors program represent the Office of the Chancellor and the UHL program to the community at large and are expected to maintain the highest ethical and behavioral standards.

The UHL office will be contacting UHL students about Chancellor's Ambassadors service opportunities as they arise, and UHL students are expected to offer their services for at least one event each year.



The UHL Student Community

The cohort-based environment of the UHL program offers the UHL students a vibrant intellectual community, as well as unique opportunities for social interaction and a student voice in the ongoing development of the UHL program.

UHL Student Advisory Board

The UHL Student Advisory Board is the UHL students' conduit to the administration of the UHL program and consists of three members from each UHL cohort. It meets regularly to discuss matters of interest to the UHL students and to convey student ideas and concerns to the UHL administration.

Students are elected to one-year terms on the Student Advisory Board. Students who wish to stand for election should submit their names to Phyllis Chaney, Program Coordinator by September 30. Voting will be done by cohort; that is, first-year students will vote on their class representatives, second year students will vote on their class representatives, and so on.



UHL Student Club

The UHL Student Club provides UHL students with the opportunity to build community through social and service activities. The Club is governed by the UHL students and receives funding from the CU Denver student government. Students are encouraged to work actively to make this club a vibrant forum for social interaction and service to the community.

UHL Student Social Activities

The UHL community is more than an academic one, and the cohort-based nature of the UHL program offers unique opportunities for interaction beyond the classroom. Friendships made during one's university years often extend for a lifetime, and social interaction is an important means to facilitate the development of these relationships as well as of an intellectual community. With this in mind, the UHL program offers a variety of opportunities for social interaction among the UHL students. Some of these will be sponsored by the UHL program itself, but we also expect the UHL students to play an active role in creating opportunities for social interaction among the UHL students, particularly through the UHL Student Club.

The UHL Admissions Process

Admission to the University Honors and Leadership (UHL) program is competitive. In addition to published requirements for admission to CU Denver, successful applicants will have a high school GPA, class ranking, and SAT/ACT scores commensurate with an honors educational experience. For example, we expect that applicants will rank in the top ten percent of their high school class and/or have scored in the 90th percentile or above on the SAT/ACT.

How to Apply

Students who wish to be considered for admission to the UHL program must first be admitted as full-time undergraduate students to CU Denver. In order to apply for the UHL program, please submit the following application materials:

- A completed UHL application form
- A written essay (see essay instructions on the application form)
- Two letters of recommendation
- One photo (head shot)

Please note that the UHL staff will obtain copies of academic records (transcripts and standardized test scores) for each applicant from the CU Denver Admissions Office. The applicant, therefore, needs to submit only the documents listed above to be considered for admission to the UHL program.

Students who are selected as finalists for admission will be interviewed by the UHL Admissions Committee as part of the admissions process. While personal interviews are preferable, phone interviews will be conducted for those unable to travel to Denver.

Transfer Student Admissions

Due to the cohort-based nature of the UHL program, transfer applications can generally only be considered for students who have completed less than 30 credit hours of university-level coursework. In addition, potential admission is contingent on the availability of slots in the current UHL cohort.

Please note that students who are admitted into the UHL program after the first semester of their freshmen year will be required to complete the first-year UHL core courses during their first two semesters in the program.

Prospective transfer students must follow the standard UHL application procedures and should include copies of transcripts for all college-level work completed to date with their application materials. Applicants for transfer admission into the UHL program will be evaluated by the UHL Admissions Committee on the same basis as traditional UHL candidates.

No UHL credit can be granted for honors courses completed through other university honors programs.

UHL Staff Directory

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UHL Steering Committee

Peter Bryant, Ph.D., Professor of Decision Sciences

Douglas Dyckes, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry

Larry Erbert, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication

Linda Fried, J.D., Instructor, Information Systems

Georg Gadow, Ph.D., Associate Director for Leadership Studies

L. Ann Martin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Accounting

Steven G. Medema, Ph.D., UHL Director and Professor of Economics

Sean McGowan, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Music

Robert Metcalf, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy

Carl Pletsch, Ph.D., Professor of History