Oklahoma State University Honors College Continues to be Top-Ranked Honors Program in the State of Oklahoma

The Honors College earned a 5 star curriculum rating in the comprehensive guide, “Inside Honors: Ratings and Reviews of 50 Public University Honors Programs”. The publication looked at various areas including Honors curriculum, Honors courses offered, special experiences, prestigious scholarships, admissions statistics, and Honors housing. This places Oklahoma State University’s Honors College as the highest rated Honors College or Program in Oklahoma.

Honors Student
Mikayla Doty
Worked on a new research project as part of her DNA Barcoding class. In the class, students obtain hands-on experience with PCR amplification, sequencing technology, and analysis of DNA barcoding information.

Honors Student
Alexis Vance
Interned for an entire year at the Johnson Space Center as a Flight Controller Trainee.

Honors Student
Hunter Yell
Stopped to pose for a picture with the Neuschwanstein Castle in southern Germany while studying abroad.

Honors Students
Aubry Hensley
Gained valuable knowledge during her summer pre-veterinary internship.
Honors College Student Accomplishments

The OSU Honors College Celebrated 50 Years in 2019

[Niblack Scholars](7 out of 14 recipients were honors students!)
Adrienne Blakey
Olivia Davis
Samantha Howe
Katie Mueller
Natasha Prentiss
Sarah Soliman
Fatama Sornaly

[Freshman Research Scholars](56 out of 91 selected were honors students!)
Phoebe Austerman
Kelsie Ballew
Blake Bartlett
Savannah Basco
Christina Baxter
Nathan Brooks
Madison Brown
Randall Butt
Caroline Carson
Rachel Dolan
Elysa Donoho
Elizabeth Dworkin
Natali Edwards
Carson Elmore
Katherine Ethridge
Dara Evans
Natalie Evans
Allison Fredman
Ashley Gin
Eliza Hale
Matthew Hamilton
Luke Harper
Matthew Harter
Conner Heffernan
Kierston Holstine
Emily Johnson
Hayden Karlak
Austin Kirks
Brice Koons
Kaitlyn Lane
Rachel Madden
Abbigayle Marion
Sydney Markham
Caitlin McBride
Wyatt McCoy
Jayla Melvin
Adam Morey
Sarah Northcutt
Elizabeth Oak
Lindsay Owens
Isabelle Posey
Jadyn Powell
Ryan Pruitt
Joel Quarnstrom
Anusha Saraf
Ridley Shelby
Ryan Sloan
Madison Stessman
Stephen Stumpf
Sophia Taliaferro
Collin Thornton
Emma Turner
Karen Weckler
Tyler Wedel
Joshua Wood
William Yadon

[Wentz Research Grants](17 out of 37 recipients were honors students!)
Sage Becker
Lydia Bunting
Elizabeth Bunting
Jordan Cowger
Avery Dutcher
Allye Gardner
Emily Gietzen
Cody Green
Lauren Guthridge
Jackson Jandreau
Larissa Kozlowski
Ryan McIntire
Jacob Osborne
Samantha Shafer
Patrick Steichen
Colton Tubbs
Taylor Walton

[Oklahoma State Society Scholars]

**Society Fellows**
Landon Bakhsh
Rio Bonham
Mary Erdmann
Carinna Marling
Karley White

The Oklahoma State Scholars Society (OSSS) is the university’s premier scholar development program that offers major financial support and broad scholarly opportunities to top-performing in-state students.

**Society Members**
Gabriel Barber
Angela Cantrell
Marshall Clune
Addie Coody
Riley Dunham
Trent Gibbs
Reece Harrel
Lara Hays
Kyle Humphreys
Emily Johnston
Emma Rich
Jeffrey Stockel
Honors College Student Accomplishments

**Phi Beta Kappa**
(21 out of 32 inductees were honors students!)

- Christian Blacet
- Charles Cirocco
- Rebecca Dempewolf
- Victoria Denny
- Kaylen Gurwell
- Nikole Heon
- Samantha Homann
- Chase Laspisa
- Maddie McClain
- Caitlyn McDowell
- Tanna Newberg
- Sarah Oliver
- Jacob Osborne
- Kiara Alexis Rogers
- Joshua Ross
- Ashlyn Ruley
- Sarah Soliman
- Dyonna Starr-Ramos
- Addison Van
- Zandbergen

**Seniors of Significance**
(22 out of 44 were honors students!)

- Sage Becker
- Danya Brewer
- Jordan Cowger
- Kayleigh Crane
- DaLacy Dockrey
- Emily Gietzen
- Caroline Graham
- Madeline Hawkins
- Samantha Howe
- Anna Hurlbut
- Zachary Kensinger
- Becca Lane
- Brittany Lippy
- Luke MacNaughton
- Rachael Merkel
- Adam Morgan
- Sarah Oliver
- Joanna Quiah
- Samantha Shafer
- Patrick Steichen
- Colton Tubbs
- Rachel Williams

**Honors Top 40 Freshmen**
(* indicates a Top 10 winner)

- Jacob Auer*
- Georgia Blackwell
- Bailey Clawson
- Grant Eaton
- Andee Fitts
- Alyssa Hoyle
- Sara Humphrey
- Jaden Kasitz*
- Jennifer Litchfield*
- Sergio Mares*
- Tegan Maxson*
- Nyla Maere
- Luke Muller*
- Johna Pulliam
- Sydney Ruder
- Caleb Smith
- Kelly Steichen
- Parker Strickland
- Jacob Thorley*
- Wade Witcher*

**Goldwater Scholarship**

Honors student Cole Replogle was selected as a 2019 Barry Goldwater Scholar. This is one of the most prestigious honors in the nation for students seeking careers in the natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering. (news.okstate.edu)

**Honors Experiential Learning Reflective Essay Winners**

- Spring 2019 - Rebecca Dempewolf
- Summer 2019 - Meredith Bush

**Undergraduate Library Research Award**

- Honorable Mention - Jonathan “Ty” Derouen
  “Protein Kinase A Manipulation by Chlamydia trachomatis During Infection”

**Women for OSU Scholars**

Honors students Alison Booth, Rachel Terry, and Alexis Vance were named Women for OSU Scholars in recognition of their outstanding philanthropic activities and dedication to making a positive impact on the community.
Honors College Student Accomplishments

Phi Kappa Phi
(80 of 204 undergrad initiates were Honors students!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Bengs</td>
<td>B.S. Animal Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madeline Betts</td>
<td>B.S. Zoology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taryn Blackstock</td>
<td>B.S. Applied Exercise Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Blackwell</td>
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<td>Molly Bloom</td>
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<td>Alison Booth</td>
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<td>Thomas Bourke</td>
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<td>James Borgerding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Boyer</td>
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<td>Valentin Brito</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Bunting</td>
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<td>Megan Burke</td>
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<td>Meredith Bush</td>
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<td>Mariah Carter</td>
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<td>Mckenzie Carvalho</td>
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<td>Kayla Cuba</td>
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<td>Aidan Dartlon</td>
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<td>Rebecca Dempewolf</td>
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<td>Grant Evans</td>
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<td>James Gragg</td>
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<td>Urbane Hanon</td>
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<td>Hallie Hart</td>
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<td>Kelsie Hedges</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Henderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Hodges</td>
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Outstanding Seniors
(9 of 15 students selected were honors students!)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danya Brewer</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>DaLacy Dockrey</td>
<td>Agricultural Economics and Accounting</td>
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<td>Caroline Graham</td>
<td>Microbiology/Cell &amp; Molecular Biology and</td>
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<td>Madeline Hawkins</td>
<td>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</td>
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<td>Becca Lane</td>
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<td>Rachael Merkel</td>
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<td>Sarah Oliver</td>
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<td>Joanna Quiah</td>
<td>Biosystems Engineering</td>
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<td>Colton Tubbs</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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Honors Orange Gown Graduates

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sage Becker</td>
<td>B.S. Animal Science</td>
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<td>Kathryn Biehl</td>
<td>B.S. Zoology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydnie Fleming</td>
<td>B.S. Applied Exercise Science</td>
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<td>Madeline Hawkins</td>
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Honors Student Taryn Blackstock lounging with one of the Trafalgar Square Lions in London.
This year has been an important year for the Honors College at Oklahoma State University as we celebrated 50 years of Honors degrees. The first mention we can find of an Honors program at Oklahoma State University is a specialist program in the School of Business in 1963. The following year we see a similar program in the College of Arts and Sciences; both these programs are quite unlike Honors today. It was not until later in the 1960s that the university started to develop an actual Honors degree and the first recipients of the Honors degree graduated in 1969. There have been many changes over the 50 years, moving from initially a small program primarily in Arts and Sciences to a university-wide program, then ultimately becoming a College in 2009. Today with over 2000 students in the Honors College, representing almost every major at the university the College is truly university-wide endeavor.

At the Honors Hooding Ceremony this year we were able to honor the first three graduates from the Honors program. Three graduates, Drs. Allan Edmonds, Robert R. Edgar and F. Alan Barber — all came to OSU from Bartlesville (Oklahoma) High School. They have gone on and done quite remarkable things. One is a math professor, one's a professor of African history, and the other's an orthopedic surgeon. Not bad. We honored them by hooding them with their own honorary hoods, since hoods were not received in 1969 when their degrees were awarded.

Looking forward the Honors College continues to develop and grow. This was the first year of our experiential learning program, for more information see Dr. Frohock's comments (next page). We introduced the first set of, what we hope will be, several new honors seminars. We received a strong response from faculty to submit course ideas that could be developed into an honors seminar. Three proposals from this competition advanced into the design phase over the summer in 2018 with the new courses to be offered in Spring 2019 for the first time. These courses designed within the Honors ethos of multidisciplinarity and intellectual challenge came from all across the university. The three courses are:

“Active Aging for L.I.F.E.,” taught by Dr. Emily Roberts from Design, Housing and Merchandising. Active aging is a framework first developed by the World Health Organization in order to optimize opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age. In this seminar students acquire a great deal of information on a wide range of topics in order to build a personal understanding of the relationships between Longevity, Independence, Fitness and Engagement for active aging. This requires the overlapping of several domains such as environmental psychology, cognitive science, sociology, physiology, architectural and interior design, human geography, assistive technology, nutrition and physical and cognitive fitness.

“The US Presidency (as seen on TV),” taught by Dr. John McGuire from Media and Strategic Communications. This course focuses on the relationship between the U.S. Presidency and the media, starting from the Roosevelt administration. The course examines the unique communication opportunities Presidents (and those seeking the office) can utilize, from news conferences to debates. Special consideration is given to the impact of new and social media and whether it is diminishing the impact of television on coverage of the office.

“The Mind,” taught by Drs. Jason Brick and Don French. Through a biopsychological approach this course explores the human mind at the levels of sensation, perception and reflection. “The Mind” will equip students to understand how their own biological and psychological predispositions affect their perceptions of the world. The course will empower students to confront biases as social and natural scientists, as well as informed citizens in a world increasingly subject to misperceptions and manipulations.

As we move towards the fall of 2019 we look forward to the continued development and growth of the Honors College at Oklahoma State University.
John Andrews, K-12 Outreach Coordinator

Over the past year the Honors College developed several exciting new K-12 partnerships and experiences. In the spring, 25 students took a brand-new honors seminar (Judging U: A Practicum in Science Fairs) with Dr. Julie Angle on the history and importance of science fairs. These students then helped Dr. Angle not only run the Oklahoma State Science and Engineering (OSSEF) here at OSU, but also went out to help judge science fairs across the state. Another group of honors students embarked on a journey to the world finals of Odyssey of the Mind (OM), a K-Collegiate competition for creative problem solving and took home 3rd place in their problem. After the team’s success on the world stage, the Oklahoma Board of OM asked to partner with the Honors College, and we will host the state finals here on campus in Spring 2020. And finally, over this past summer our home, Old Central, opened its doors to the Native Youth Leadership Camp and Upward Bound programs to provide honors style mini classes to future scholars and leaders from across the state. Looking to the future, a group of students will be going out to schools around the state to participate in our new program “Honors in the Schools” which will connect our current students and their research to K-12 teachers and students.

Dr. Rich Frohock, Associate Dean

Starting in Fall 2018, the Oklahoma State University Honors College implemented a new experiential learning program whereby students can earn honors credit for educational activities completed outside the classroom. The experiential learning program allows for a truly immersive honors experience, integrating students’ extracurricular activities into their formal education. It also creates a viable path to honors degree completion for students whose schedules preclude fulfillment of breadth requirements through traditional coursework. The experiential learning process begins with a formal proposal. Students describe their activities, estimate their time commitments, and anticipate what they will learn. Honors faculty review the proposals then add qualifying students to an online community, which provides a means of communication, relevant documentation, assignment dropboxes, a calendar, and other resources. We host a welcome workshop for first-time participants and collaborate with the university Writing Center to host writing workshops for all participants later in the semester. To complete their experiential learning requirements, students write essays reflecting on their experiences, which we assess using a custom rubric. In the 2018-2019 academic year, honors students generated the equivalent of 426 honors hours through experiential learning. Impressed by the quality of the students’ reflections, we instituted a Best Essay prize for experiential learners in Spring 2019. The inaugural prize went to Rebecca Dempewolf, an Architectural Engineering student, for her essay on her experiential learning in an OSU engineering lab. The Summer 2019 prize was awarded to Meredith Bush, who reflected on her learning through her internship in the food science industry.
Stephanie Miller is a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Honors College. Her home department is English. She completed her BA in the Honors Program at Denison University (Granville, Ohio) and her PhD at the University of York (York, UK). Dr. Miller's scholarly work focuses on modern and contemporary American literature and culture. She has taught Introduction to Literature, American Literature (1865-Present), British Literature (1910-Present), Literatures in English (1910-Present), The Short Story, Composition I and II, Critical Analysis and Writing I and II, The Story of Lizzie Borden: Axe Murder in American Culture, and Flash Fiction. Her role in the Honors College entails teaching, advising, and administrative responsibilities, such as assisting with the implementation and evaluation of experiential honors credit.

Samuel joined The Honors College Staff in June 2019. They attended OSU and earned an Honors College Degree in Political Science. Following that, Samuel completed their Masters in Educational Leadership Studies (College Student Development) at OSU in May of 2019. During their undergraduate years at OSU, Samuel served as a Leadership Mentor in Stout Hall, supporting Honors students living on campus. This support continued during Samuel's graduate work, as they served as the Assistant Residential Community Educator for the Honors Living Learning Program in Stout Hall for three years. Samuel is excited to continue their goal of advocating for and assisting Honors students at OSU, paying forward the great experience with the Honors College.

### Honors Community Events & Experiences

**Honors Odyssey of the Mind**

- team won third place at the World Finals hosted at Michigan State

**Dr. Frohock's Humanities Research Group**

- presented at the Great Plains Honors Council Conference

**Honors students enrolled in “Judging U: A Practicum in Science Fairs”**

- helped organize and run the state science fair competition

**The Honors LLP showed once again that they are “Stout of this World”**

- with their 3rd consecutive homecoming victory
8 students were awarded Honors College Degrees
271 students received General Honors Awards
152 students received Departmental or College Honors Awards