HONOR does not have to be defended.
Guard your honor.
The Honors College of Shaw University nurtures excellence in select students who are highly motivated, talented and gifted, and who demonstrate a commitment to the learning process in reaching their potential to become scholars, leaders and role models. It is an innovative, multifaceted program designed to enhance the success of student scholars at Shaw University. The Honors College’s initiatives and activities concentrate on the growth and development of students’ intellectual, ethical and leadership skills.

**EXPECTATION: Student Involvement**

All students of the Honors College are expected to learn and demonstrate leadership on campus through active involvement and participation in campus organizations and initiatives as well as community involvement. HC students serve as student ambassadors, chapel ushers, as resident assistants and regularly serve in bodies such as the Student Government Association, the Shaw Men/Shaw Woman Society, fraternities and sororities, sports teams, and have represented the university as Miss Shaw University and Miss Homecoming. HC students can literally be found in every aspect of campus life. They are integral in planning university-wide activities such as United Negro College Fund Campaign and the Morgan Stanley Lecture Series. HC students also give back to the community through weekly volunteer services.

**Honors Scholars Association (HSA)**

- All students of the Honors College compose the Honors Scholars Association, which elects its own officers and functions as a student entity of the university. The HSA assists in planning the HC annual calendar, social and community service activities for students, and is responsible for planning and implementing Honors Week and the W.E.B. DuBois Invitational Honors Conference, an initiative designed to inspire high school students to become leaders and pursue academic excellence.

**Learning Experiences and Conferences**

Our students’ academic experience is enriched by numerous opportunities for inspiration, networking and professional growth. Among them are:

- **Academic Enrichment**

- Special honors colloquia on myriad topics, such as advanced study skills, African American ethnography, the Black Bourgeoisie, the message in today’s music/hip-hop’s influence, and research skills.

- Workshops, career fairs, lecture series, academic quiz bowls and fun activities that enhance learning and teamwork.

- **National Association of African American Honors Programs (NAAHP)**

- The National Association of African American Honors Programs promotes and advances honors and similar educational programs in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Predominantly Black Colleges and Universities (PBCUs), as well as institutions that provide honors education for African American students. Students of the Honors College are selected to attend and actively participate in NAAHP’s fall conference, and compete in the Model African Union, Quiz Bowl, and debate competitions; as well as, present papers and their research in professional settings. In 2007, Shaw University’s teams won the quiz bowl tournament and received the Most Accurate Country Representation Award for the Model African Union.
Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC)

The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) is the first-ever academic competition between students at America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Shaw University students have competed in the academic competition and have represented the university among the 64 HBCUs in the national championship tournament for more than 15 years. A local campus-based tournament is held in the fall to identify students with potential, who then become a part of the university’s varsity and junior varsity teams. Additionally, Shaw students may enroll for credit in a special topics course to learn the game and gain knowledge. (www.hcasc.com)

Emerging Leaders Workshop

The Emerging Leaders Workshop (ELW), hosted by Tennessee State University, offers a unique opportunity for honor students from HBCUs to meet, learn and be inspired by college graduates who have excelled in their academic fields and are pursuing an advanced degree. Lectures, workshops and activities are designed to develop sustainable leadership through academic success, community service and ethical behavior. The goal of Emerging Leaders is to develop a core of leaders who will demonstrate what they have learned and share these attributes with others in their communities. By stressing the importance of excelling in academics and applying this educational learning in pursuit of a career, students involved in ELW will have a greater chance to serve in leadership positions and be catalysts for positive change. Participants have an opportunity to prepare for graduate school and careers through interaction with peers, senior scholars, faculty, industry professionals, government leaders and guest speakers.

North Carolina Honors Association (NCHA)

Shaw students are prepared and encouraged to present their research at the annual North Carolina Honors Association meeting held each fall by a member school of the association. Students have the opportunity to interact with their peers and faculty from other colleges and universities throughout the state.

Access and Special Events

Honors College students are given experiences to grow through year-round special events and access to established leadership. Among them are:

- Participation in special events – banquets, lectures, field trips, campus events, performances and social activities such as dinner with the president of the university – gives opportunities to meet scholars, community leaders and celebrities.
- Use of the Honors House for meetings and study and computers designated for the HC only.
- Access to university senior officials provides a rare occasion for leadership development, involvement in the university’s operations, and management training.
- Priority pre-registration advisement is given, so that students have first choice of their selected classes each semester.
- Designated housing for Honors College students is provided as available, to create a learning community and conducive atmosphere for collegiality, scholarly exchange and lifelong friendships.
Career Paths
Honors College students are encouraged from the beginning of their college sojourn to take advantage of every opportunity, including volunteer service, internships, and study abroad.

Internships
Shaw University students regularly place with businesses, agencies and colleges and universities around the country for summer – and often year-round – work opportunities which provide an early exposure to their field of study in a practical manner as well as career opportunities after graduation. Our students have been placed with such agencies as:
- Charles S. Rangel International Affairs Summer Enrichment Program, Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C.
- Civitas Institute, Durham, NC
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.
- Family Dollar Corporate Headquarters, Matthews, NC
- General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC
- Goldman Sachs Strategies Summer Program, Benedict College, Columbia, SC
- Institute for Health, Social and Community Research, Shaw University
- Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland
- Morgan Stanley, New York, NY
- Office of the Executive Vice President, Shaw University
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Washington, D.C.
- Radio ONE
- Recognizing Accelerated Mathematics Potential in Underrepresented People (RAMP-UP)
- Sidley Austin Law Firm, Chicago, IL
- Southern United States Trade Association, Raleigh, NC
- SUUPPRT (Shaw-UNC Undergraduate Program in Prostate Cancer Research and Training), University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC and University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica
- The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, Washington, D.C.

Career Planning and Graduate School
Our students are pushed to plan their futures early. Students have access to information guides, occasions to prepare for graduate exams, assistance in workshops and special events, opportunities to visit other campuses, and career fairs to launch them on the path to success.

Study Abroad Opportunities at Shaw University
Shaw University seeks to make international understanding and global awareness an integral part of its curricular and campus programming by providing study abroad opportunities for honor students. The study abroad opportunities include a student exchange program – those in which Shaw University’s students may study at a foreign institution where Shaw University has established a partnership, and students from that institution have a reciprocal opportunity to study at Shaw University. Shaw registration fees and tuition may be paid by scholarships or waivers. Financial aid may, in most cases, be applied to the costs of exchange programs. In order for a student to be eligible for participa-
tion in an exchange program one must have prior approval of the International Program Office and must have attained an adequate level of language competency to be able to function in classes in the host country.

STEM Majors – Great Opportunities

The goal of the National Science Foundation Scholars Program at Shaw University is to increase the number of minority students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields, who will ultimately earn the Ph.D. degree. Students selected as NSF scholars will be required to participate in the Science Outreach Summer Academy (SOSA), engage in a rigorous curriculum, develop research skills, develop cultural awareness, and perform community service. The summer program provides students with a foundation for a successful undergraduate experience. During their matriculation, students will conduct high quality research – essential for success at the graduate level – with faculty at Shaw University, its partner institutions, and corporate affiliates to acquire experience in research methods and practices. Students also gain opportunities for additional funding as Mack Scholars, an endowed scholarship for STEM students funded by the Christy and John Mack Foundation.

Honors College Benefits

- An Honors College lapel pin
- Priority in course selection at each semester’s registration
- Individualized advising
- Eligibility for scholarships and internships
- Participation in special events, field trips, and social activities
- Some priority in housing selection (as available)
- Individualized assistance in preparing resumes and/or applications for fellowships and postgraduate study
- Special Honors College designation on transcript
- Recognition during Awards Day ceremony
- Special medallions to be worn with graduation regalia
- Subsidized honors program and honors conference expenses (based on funding availability)

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The tragedy of life doesn’t lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach. It isn’t a calamity to die with dreams unfilled, but it is a calamity not to dream. It is not disgrace to reach the stars, but it is a disgrace to have no stars to reach for. Not failure, but low aim, is a sin.

— Benjamin E. Mays
The Requirements

The Honors College is for SERIOUS and SELF-MOTIVATED students selected as freshmen or sophomores. Only 30 candidates will be selected annually to join the Honors College.

For INCOMING FRESHMEN (straight out of high school):
- High School GPA of at least 3.0
- SAT score of 1200+ / ACT 17+
- Community Service Commitment
- Plans for Graduate Study
- 2 letters of recommendation from high school teachers or community leaders
- A 500 word essay (see application for details)

For CONTINUING FRESHMEN:
- SHAW GPA of at least 3.3 at the end of the first semester
- Successful completion of at least 15 credit hours
- Community Service Commitment
- Plans for Graduate Study
- 2 letters of recommendation from Shaw professors
- A 500 word essay (see application for details)

For SOPHOMORES:
- SHAW cumulative GPA of at least 3.3
- Successful completion of at least 30 hours
- Community Service Commitment
- Plans for Graduate Study
- 2 letters of recommendation from Shaw professors
- A 500 word essay (see application for details)

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

★ Why honors education? What’s in it for me?
♦ The Honors College will help you stay grounded and focused on your goals, particularly encouraging you to aim for graduate studies. Students with common interests and a love of learning challenge and help each other, and will be challenged and encouraged to exceed their own expectations.

★ Do I automatically get a scholarship?
♦ No, being a member of the Honors College does not mean a scholarship. It is true that the university’s Presidential Scholars are automatically members of the Honors College. Those students who exhibit high academic achievement throughout the university are considered for awards and scholarships presented annually on Awards Day. These are selected based on the criteria of each scholarship. We also encourage and assist our students to apply for many scholarships, fellowships, and internships.

★ If I "try" the honors colloquium this semester, do I automatically get in the Honors College?
♦ NO! Admission to the Honors College will be through an application process (see back). We plan to admit no more than 30 students to the Honors College each year.

★ If I don’t like the honors colloquium, do I have to stay?
♦ No, you do not have to finish the honors colloquium. The last day to add or drop a class is announced on the university calendar and Shaw website. If you are a Presidential Scholar, the honors colloquium is mandatory each semester you attend Shaw.
When is the honors colloquium?

- **HON 102 01** (freshmen) will meet on Thursday mornings, 11:00 a.m.—11:50 a.m. **HON 202** (sophomores) will meet on Thursday mornings, 12 noon—12:50 p.m. Both meet in **TOS 105**. The class locations are subject to change. Students must have prerequisites or permission to take these classes.

**I think I have what it takes, but my grades don’t show it. Can I still be considered for the Honors College?**

- Based upon your application and interview, we will consider students who may not display the specified qualifications, but who believe they can work hard to become scholars and leaders!

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**Do you want to TRY honors education?**

The Honors College offers a “freebie” for interested freshmen and sophomore students. You can earn 1 credit for the class. You must **ADD** this class to your schedule by the add/drop deadline after getting permission from Dr. Leathers! Each course will be limited to a total of 30 students.

- **HON 101 01** (freshmen), Mondays, 9:00—9:50 a.m., TOS 116 (room might change)
- **HON 201 01** (sophomores), Tuesdays, 9:00—9:50 a.m., TOS 116 (room might change)
- **HON 301 01** (juniors) Thursdays, 9:00—9:50 a.m., TOS 116 (room might change)
- **HON 401 01** (seniors) Wednesdays, 9:00—9:50 a.m., TOS 116 (room might change)

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**12 Questions to Ask YOURSELF when learning...**

1. What is my purpose for reading this?
2. What do I already know about this topic?
3. What is the big picture here?
4. What is the author going to say next?
5. What are the “expert questions?”
6. What question does this information raise for me?
7. What information is important here?
8. How can I paraphrase and summarize this information?
9. How can I organize this information?
10. How can I picture this information?
11. What is my hook for remembering this information?
12. How does this information fit in with what I already know?
If education is of any practical value it should serve to guide us to living, to fit us for the work around us and demanded by the times in which we live.

—Carter G. Woodson

NEW LOCATION!
The Honors House is located at 302 Martin Luther King Boulevard
(on the corner of Person Street)