

CMU Honors Program Course Description Guide

Spring 2026

Honors Program Courses					
Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times	Registration Requirements/ Honors Protocol	Instructor
HON 149 (1 cr)	Intro to Honors College of Medicine Seminar	22465930	W 4:00-5:50 pm 1/14/2026-5/6/2026	Must be admitted to CMED Honors Early Assurance Program	Eric Davis
HON 249 (1 cr)	Intermediate Honors CMED Seminar	22465931	W 4:00-5:50 pm 1/14/2026-5/6/2026	Must be admitted to CMED Honors Early Assurance Program	Chris Austin
HON 349 (1 cr)	Advanced Honors CMED Seminar	22465932	Online Asynchronous/Hybrid	Must be admitted to CMED Honors Early Assurance Program	Chris Austin
HON 317 (3 cr)	Honors Practicum in Publication	22474054	Tu 6:00-7:50 pm	This is a 1 credit course that can be taken multiple times	Mel Purdy
HON 319 (3 cr) IV-C	Culture & Inequality in the U.S.: Race and Gender in College Sports	22465415	M W 12:00-1:15 pm 1/12/2026-5/6/2026	Meets HON Cultural Diversity credit	Tracy Collins
HON 319SL (3 cr) IV-C	Culture & Inequality in the U.S.: “We All Are Americans: How Immigrants Built the United States”	22474272	Tu 5:00-6:50 pm 1/13/2026-5/5/2026	Meets HON Cultural Diversity credit *Study away *Course fee	Alejandra Rengifo
HON 320 (3 cr) IV-A	Discrimination and Diversity in the U.S “20 th Century Detroit and Beyond”	22465680	Tu Th 3:30-4:45 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026	Meets HON Cultural Diversity credit	Timothy O’Neil
HON 320 (3 cr) IV-A	Discrimination and Diversity in the U.S. “Judaism and Anti-Judaism in the United States ”	22465681	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026	Meets HON Cultural Diversity credit	Kelly Murphy
HON 321AS (3 cr)	Critical Materials for Clean Energy	22473952	Tu Th 11:00-12:15 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		BingBing Li
HON 321BG (3 cr)	Refugees and Forced Migration	22473958	Tu Th 9:30-10:45 am 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		Prakash Adhikari
HON 321BI (3 cr)	Sex, Sin and Censorship: Film Content Regulation in the U.S.	22473991	M 6:00-8:50 pm 1/13/2026-5/6/2026		Patricia Williamson
HON 399 (1-6 cr)	Independent Study	22462012	1/12/2026-5/8/2026	Independent study form	Patricia Williamson
HON 499 (3 cr)	Senior Project	22462013	1/12/2026-5/8/2026	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson

HON 499WI (3 cr)	Senior Project	22465270	1/12/2026-5/8/2026	Capstone proposal approval required	Patricia Williamson
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Departmental Honors Sections					
Courses Credits UP	Course Title	Section Number	Days & Times		Instructor
BIO 212H (4 cr)	Foundations of Form and Function	22465686	Tu Th 2:00-3:15 pm W 1:00-3:50 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		Peter Kourtev
BIO 500H (3 cr)	Biological Statistics	22465690	M W 11:00-11:50 am Lab W 5:00-6:50 pm 1/12/2026-5/6/2026		Hunter Carrick
CHM 132H (4 cr)	General Chemistry II	22461240	Tu W Th 10:00-10:50 am M 10:10:50 am Lab M 11:00-12:50 pm 1/12/2026-5/7/2026		Janice Tomasik
COM 267H (3 cr)	Introduction to Debate	22474564	M W 10:00-10:50 am 1/12/2026-5/6/2026		Joe Packer
ENG 201H (3 cr)	Intermediate Composition	22461649	M W 10:00-10:50 am 1/12/2026-5/6/2026	Hybrid	Tracy Collins
ENG 201H (3 cr)	Intermediate Composition	22461675	MW 2:00-3:15 pm 1/12/2026-5/6/2026		Nicole Barco
ENG 201H (3 cr)	Intermediate Composition	22461676	Tu Th 12:30-1:45 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		Mark Freed
ENG 201H (3 cr)	Intermediate Composition	22461677	Tu Th 3:30-4:45 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		Mary Wendt
HDF 110H (3 cr)	Oppression: Roots & Impact	22461902	Tu Th 11:00-12:15 pm 1/13/2026-5/7/2026		Cheryl Geisthardt
HSC 302H (3 cr)	Human Physiology	22465403	M W 12:00-1:15 pm Lab M 3:30-4:20 pm 1/12/2026-5/6/2026		Leslie Wallace
TAI 170H (3 cr) I-B	Oral Interpretation of Literature	22463813	M W 2:00-3:15 pm 1/12/2026-5/6/2026		Stacey Pattison

Honors Program Course Descriptions

HON 149: Introduction to Honors College of Medicine

Dr. Eric Davis

Wednesday 4:00-5:50 pm

Introduction to the medical world to provide support for College of Medicine Honors Early Assurance Program students. Must be accepted into the CMU College of Medicine Honors Early Assurance Program to take this course.

HON 249: Intermediate Honors CMED Seminar

Dr. Chris Austin

Wednesday 4:00-5:50 pm

Expand upon medical knowledge and experience developed in HON 149 to provide support for the medical school application process. Must be accepted into the CMU College of Medicine Honors Early Assurance Program to take this course.

HON 349: Advanced Honors CMED Seminar

Dr. Chris Austin

Hybrid Asynchronous

Final course on undergraduate medical knowledge and experience, building on foundations from HON 149 and 249, in preparation for the medical school application process. Must be accepted into the CMU College of Medicine Honors Early Assurance Program to take this course.

HON 317: Honors Practicum in Publication

Mel Purdy

Tuesday 6:00-7:50 pm Moore 111

For those interested in any aspects of publishing, this course is an opportunity to be a part of the editorial team of two annual periodicals published by the CMU Honors Program. This hands-on course provides experience in all aspects of the editing and publication process. Students select submissions for publication, copy edit submissions, and design and publish the periodicals. The first of these publications is *The Honors Platform*, a journal that publishes pieces written by CMU Honors students featuring a variety of formats (i.e., essays, papers, poetry, nonfiction, graphic arts, photography). Second is *The Great Lakes Platform*, a journal featuring the works of high school students in Michigan and the Great Lakes region. Both journals are produced during this course. Students meet as a team and complete independent work. All majors and fields are welcome. In addition to course requirements, you may also earn up to 30 service hours if you wish to provide additional support for these activities beyond class requirements.

HON 319: Race and Gender in College Sports

Dr. Tracy Collins

Monday/Wednesday 12:00-1:15 pm Anspach 314

Interested in exploring how women and minorities are affected by the multibillion-dollar industry known as college sports? This course will explore the many pitfalls and promises of the uniquely American connection between sports and higher education, particularly for minorities and women. Throughout the semester, students will discover the opportunities college sports offers, as well as the radical discrimination and inequalities it creates. Thanks to the interdisciplinary nature of this course, students interested in everything from business or health to politics, gender and race will find field-relevant and engaging questions to tackle in this course. No previous knowledge of college sports is needed.

HON 319SL: We All Are Americans: How Immigrants Built the United States

Dr. Alejandra Rengifo

Tuesday 5:00-6:50 pm Pearce 328

This course will challenge students intellectually & strengthen their critical thinking skills by providing a focused look at the themes of immigration and migration history in the U.S., particularly in Michigan and New Mexico. The class will pay close attention to im/migration to and within the U.S., the varied experiences of different ethnic group identities, and how their contribution to the country's cultural, social, political, educational, economic, and artistic creativity has had an impact on the character of the nation through its history. Spring Break (March 7-14) will be spent volunteering in Las Cruces, New Mexico. This class meets Honors Cultural Diversity requirement, UP IV-C credit, and up to 30 service hours.

HON 320: 20th Century Detroit and Beyond: Class, Race and Gender from 1910 to Present

Dr. Timothy O'Neil

Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45 pm Pearce 327

This course examines Twentieth Century Detroit and beyond through the lens of Class, Race and Gender. In the first half of the 20th Century, Detroit—the Motor City—emerged as the automobile capital of the world and became the symbol of American industrial might and prosperity. People throughout the world made pilgrimages to Detroit to see what the future looked like. Students will examine where the auto industry drew its labor force from immigration, the organization of auto workers into the United Auto Workers (UAW) and developed the nation's strongest Labor movement as well as the equality of the workforce. Detroit's rise and decline in population because of the auto industry, immigration, war production, and the result of deindustrialization.

HON 320: Judaism and Anti-Judaism in the United States

Dr. Kelly Murphy

Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45 pm Anspach 314

What is Judaism? Who are Jews? What does it mean to talk about the American Jewish experience? And what role has antisemitism played in the US? "Judaism and Anti-Judaism in the United States" will serve as an introduction to Jewish religious, social, cultural, and political life in the United States with a focus on the diversity of Jewish experience throughout American history. The course will also examine the relationship between American Jews and other Americans, including the causes of and response to anti-Jewish prejudice in the United States.

HON 321BG: Refugees and Forced Migration

Dr. Prakash Adhikari

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 am Anspach 155

Violent conflicts and natural disasters around the world affect millions of people every year, forcing many to leave their homes. This seminar will introduce students to the major causes of forced migration. The course begins with a brief introduction to the literature on political violence. After sketching an overview of the major theoretical arguments in the study of armed conflicts, the course will examine the major causes of forced migration: conflict-induced displacement; development-induced displacement; climate-induced displacement. The remainder of the course examines forced migration from the perspective of the affected migrants themselves. We will look at literature on institutional frameworks that typically deal with situations of human displacement, with a specific focus on conflict-induced displacement (refugees). This will include an in-depth examination of international, regional, national norms and local responses to the problem of forced migration. Students will examine various historical and contemporary cases of conflict-induced displacement and have a first-hand experience of completing course work in collaboration with forced migrants (refugees) living in the Dzaleka refugee camp in Malawi. They will also have an opportunity to meet refugees resettled in Michigan from various parts of the world.

HON 321AS: Critical Materials for Clean Energy

Dr. BingBing Li

Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15 pm Dow 109

Blood Cobalt is a documentary based on Australian reporter Michael Davie's journey to Congo, one of the poorest countries with over half of the world's cobalt deposits. Cobalt is essential for making batteries in electric vehicles, cellphones, and laptops. Cobalt Red: How the Blood of the Congo Powers Our Lives, a book authored by Siddharth Kara, also discussed the human rights violation in Congo's cobalt mines. While the world is embracing the clean energy revolution, the transition is hobbled with high cost of mining and associated supply chain uncertainties.

This course will start from the basic chemistry of "the electric eighteen" (i.e., the 18 critical materials for clean energy, as determined by the US Secretary of Energy). We then focus on some of their properties and applications as critical materials for the clean energy industry. Material sustainability will be further evaluated through the life cycle lens, with emphasis on introducing cutting-edge chemistry and material research for waste management and recycling.

HON 321: Sex, Sin and Censorship: Film Content Regulation in the U.S.

Dr. Patricia Williamson

Monday 6:00-8:50 pm Moore 113

Film content that challenges societal norms is often subject to censorship. Since film developed into a popular entertainment form over 125 years ago, a variety of stakeholders have worked to silence the voices of content creators for a wide range of content deemed offensive, inappropriate, or harmful. This course will look at the various content regulation efforts used to censor filmmakers over the past century. Students will learn to critique and interpret film content while analyzing its historical significance and its commentary on cultural norms of the era. Key films will be viewed and discussed in class, and optional movie nights will be scheduled outside of class. Students will learn about the legal and policy-related implications of film content regulation, exploring some of the unintended consequences on free speech and artistic expression.