

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

HONORS PROGRAM

Honors Courses Spring 2026

Schedule is subject to change

CRN	Course	Day/Time
13539	HON 161: Poets and Painters (UISA)	MW 3:35-4:50pm
13557	HON 164: Climate Change Science (UIST 130)	MW 2:10-3:25pm
12711	HON 170 Politics and Government (POL 110)	MW 11:20am – 12:35pm
13581	HON 172: Intro to Philosophy	TR 9:55-11:10am
13582	HON 181: Making Media/Doing Feminism, Feminist Media Studies	TR 3:35-4:50pm
11691	HON 182W Academic Writing I (WRT 110)	MW 3:35 – 4:50pm
11692	HON 182W Academic Writing I (WRT 110)	TR 9:55 – 11:10am
11693	HON 183W Academic Writing II (WRT 111)	TR 2:10 – 3:25pm
11694	HON 183W Academic Writing II (WRT 111)	TR 5-6:15pm
11695	HON 183W Academic Writing II (WRT 111)	MW 2:10 – 3:25pm
11696	HON 183W Academic Writing II (WRT 111)	TR 9:55 – 11:10am
11697	HON 183W Academic Writing II (WRT 111)	TR 12:45 – 2:00pm
21256	HON 215W Introduction to Prof. Writing (WRT 215W)	TR 12:45 – 2:00pm
11404	HON 383: Networks & Diversity in Complex Systems	TR 9:55-11:10am
13583	HON 383: Castaways and Survivors	MW 11:20-12:35
13584	HON 390: AI in Action (registration closed)	M 5-7:20pm

Honors UIS Courses

HON 161: Poets and Painters

This course is built around three units - poetry, the novel, and the short story - each of which is designed to engage students in integrative learning across the disciplines of literature and the visual arts. Each unit includes one written and one visual project, each closely related to the other. Overall, the goal is to teach students approaches and techniques to the literary and visual works at hand, so that they can learn to create their own conceptual material for an audience of their peers. *This counts as a UISA course for students.*

HON 164: Climate Change Science

This course explores the scientific evidence that supports our understanding of global anthropogenic climate change. The course is grounded in scientific exploration of the issue of climate change, including topics such as increasing levels of atmospheric CO₂, the greenhouse effect, and the sources of emissions. Topics for discussion include the Vostok ice core and Loai observatory data, and the ways climate change impacts sea level rise, melting glaciers, seasonal temperatures, weather events, ecological relationships, and biodiversity. It provides a wide range of scientific evidence for global climate change and challenges students to think critically about the science of climate change and what it might mean for life on earth. The class will use the lenses of policy and culture to examine potential solutions to climate change and the barriers that exist for those changes. Students will be challenged to communicate complex science through visual forms such as presentations, photography, infographics, and/or narrative audio. *This counts as a UIST course for students.*

Honors Special Topics Course

HON 181: Making Media/Doing Feminism: Introduction to Feminist Media Studies

Something evil lurks at Camp Crystal Lake, and it is even worse than you think. What could be scarier than the incomprehensible, gory murders performed by a maniacal mother and son? The backdrop of patriarchy that informed, and redefined, the violence. Using a podcast reimagining of the story of Friday the 13th, Kamp Krystal Killjoy, students will learn how Killjoy Feminism (refusing to make other people happy by going with the flow and accepting injustice) is reinventing feminism as a tool for combating oppressive gender, racial, and classist systems. This class will provide students with a theoretical grounding in Killjoy Feminism, an understanding of feminist media studies, and empower them to use media as a tool for social justice. Throughout the course, students will play with media making of their own – podcasts, videos, signage, hashtags, zines, etc... – as a means for doing Killjoy feminism and transforming the world. *This course counts as an elective for Communication programs (Communications and DMJ), as well as an elective for the Gender and Sexuality Studies minor. This course can count as a UISS or UISA course, please speak with advisor.*

Honors Seminars

HON 383: Castaways and Survivors

Why are we fascinated by tales of shipwrecked sailors, island castaways, plane-crash survivors? What purposes are served by stories that ask us to imagine being separated from family and friends, fending for ourselves in a hostile environment, renegotiating social rules, and shifting our attention from the niceties of modern life to the demands of physical survival? This course will provide an occasion for thinking about these and related questions through a selective survey of castaway and survival texts, including both fiction (films, novels) and actual survivor stories. *This course counts as an HON 300 seminar for A&S students and as an upper-level literature elective for English majors. Honors students in other colleges should consult with their honors coordinator before enrollment.*

HON 383: Networks and Diversity in Complex Systems

Complex systems are all around us. They can be found in nature and in the activities and processes created by humans. In this course we'll explore two important characteristics of complex adaptive systems—networks and diversity—and the role they play in such systems. We will examine network structure and theoretical underpinnings, with a focus on the important role networks play in our lives and how they impact our everyday activities. We will also examine the critical role diversity plays in complex adaptive systems. We'll investigate how diversity contributes to a system's performance, robustness, and resilience. Finally, we'll explore how an understanding of the role of networks and diversity is being used to address challenges ranging from epidemics and the spread of disease to environmental, political, and economic problems.

Prerequisite: An overall GPA of 3.00 or higher. This course counts as an HON 300 seminar for A&S students; honors students in other colleges should consult with their honors coordinator before enrollment. The course will count as an upper-level elective in the Complexity Minor. If the final project is related to Economics, it will count as an upper-level elective in Economics, if related to International Studies (either track), it will count as an upper-level elective in International Studies; if the final project is related to Politics, it will count as an upper-level elective in Politics, and if the final project relates to Psychology, it will count as an upper-level elective in Psychology.

Humanities Seminar HON 390: AI in Action

Artificial intelligence, simply defined as the use of machines that perceive their environment and then harness “intelligence” to adapt to societal needs, has a broad impact across several fields of study. They include, but are not limited to economics, philosophy, education, computer science, psychology, and medicine. Examples of how we encounter AI on a daily basis include using facial recognition to unlock your phone, messaging a company’s chatbot to answer a particular question about a recent purchase, relying on Google maps or Waze to reroute your travel itinerary before you even know about traffic, and receiving curated viewing suggestions on Netflix based on the streaming service’s targeted algorithm. Although AI is often considered to be a twenty-first century innovation, it has existed as a discreet field since the 1950s. Even before this time, humans have contemplated the many uses of technology to improve their lives. In this class, we will examine the historical, social, and industry-based developments of AI, in order to better understand the ethical and economic implications of this technology—and make informed decisions about the future of humans. *This class will count as an HON 300 seminar for A&S students. Students in other colleges should check with their College Honors Coordinator.* Applications are closed.