HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY

THE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

HONORS ACADEMY

OVERVIEW

The School of Humanities offers programs leading to the Associate in General Studies and the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degrees to students having interests or career objectives involving individual and community relationships. Majors are available in the following disciplines: criminal justice, English, history, social science, psychology, social work, social studies composite, and the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy (multidisciplinary). School of Humanities departments that offer minors include English, English writing, Spanish, History, Social Science, Psychology, and Criminal Justice. Teacher certification is available in English and language arts, history and social studies composite. (See the School of Education and Fine Arts section of the catalog.)

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FOUNDATION

ACA 4000: Experiential Learning

All Honors Academy majors must demonstrate the achievement of an Experiential Learning Foundation by earning three credit hours in any combination of the following for-credit programs: Domestic or International Study; Internship; Model United Nations; Moot Court; Mock Trial; Student Speaker Bureau. This course constitutes a graduation requirement and should be added to the student's schedule during the semester in which they complete this requirement. Pass/Fail.

HONORS ACADEMY CAPSTONE

ACA 4108: The Academy Bachelor's Thesis: Research and Preparation

A laboratory course in research methods in preparation for the Academy Bachelor's Thesis, which provides an analysis for a public policy topic selected by the student in consultation with the Academy Director.

ACA 4208: The Academy Bachelor's Thesis: Defense (Honors)

Presentation and Defense of the Academy Bachelor's Thesis. Students must possess a 3.25 cumulative GPA within the Honors Academy curriculum by the time they begin ACA 4208.

ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS

ECO 2350: Political Economy
A political analysis of implementing macro- and microeconomic principles.

ECO 3350: Economic Theory and Policy Analysis
Introduction to public policy analysis with special emphasis on the use of comparative economic theories – including Mill, Smith, Marx, Keynes, and Friedman – in the development of policy proposals and cost/benefit analysis.

CIVIC FOUNDATIONS

GOV 2390: Politics, Process, Policy: State & Local
This course traces the philosophical and practical contours of policy-making in the federal system, focused at the state and local level. Special attention will be paid to structures of state and local governance in the State of Texas.

GOV 3391 Law and Society
An overview of Anglo-American legal principles and an analysis of controversial legal issues in contemporary American society.

GOV 4304: American Political Culture
This course will examine the nature of the U.S. political culture throughout the nation's history, including and especially the role of political parties and interest groups in shaping the debate over public policies and in contesting elections.

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

HIS 4382: Contemporary U.S. History and Politics
This seminar explores the political, economic, social, and cultural elements of recent U.S. history (1974-present) which combine to contextualize our present day.

GOV 4389: U.S. Foreign Policy and I.R. Theory
An examination of competing theories of international relations as seen through the lens of U.S. foreign policy. Special attention is paid to the role of the presidency in constructing and directing U.S. policies.

PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS

HIS 3303: Perspectives in the Social Sciences

Survey of various analytical and methodological tools of the social sciences. Special emphasis on traditionalism/revisionism, realism/liberalism, and interpretive schemas from other social science disciplines including psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

GOV 3381: Political Theory

A comparative study of the ideas and ideologies that shaped the Western World and have influenced the non-Western World, emphasizing political theories that contributed to capitalism, liberalism, socialism, communism, and fascism.

GOV 4392: Christianity, Ethics, and Politics in America

An examination of the relationship between Christianity, politics, and civil government. Special emphasis on the role of ethics in responsible policy-making, and dilemmas such as war and peace, church and state, and interventionism and isolationism.