The Honors College at VCU cultivates renaissance thinkers for the 21st century while creating an innovative, real-world approach to community engagement. The Honors College offers highly motivated and high-achieving undergraduates a liberal arts college experience within the context of a large, urban, public research university. The Honors College is appealing to students from all majors who want to transcend disciplinary boundaries, be innovative and address big questions through classroom and, especially, experiential learning. With that in mind, the Honors College prepares students to be skilled communicators, critical thinkers and problems solvers. Further, students have opportunities to develop their understanding of language and culture locally and internationally, while also gaining a sense of social responsibility and a broad understanding of diversity and inclusion in the 21st century.

The center of activities for The Honors College is located at 701 W. Grace St., a living/learning, residential honors community. In this facility, students have meeting rooms, quiet study rooms, computers and recreational areas. This facility is open to honors students day and night for study.

Graduation with University Honors

The Honors College at VCU cultivates renaissance thinkers for the 21st century while creating an innovative, real-world approach to community engagement.

The honors curriculum runs concurrently with a student's program of study or degree requirements. In addition, dedicated honors advisers assist students in selecting courses that will fulfill graduation requirements and match students' interests. Further, in consultation with honors advisers, the honors cohort coordinator will assist students with completing their culminating capstone experience.

While most honors students enter college with significant writing experiences, the Honors College wants to build on those skills, working toward a true understanding of the critical thinking and reflection that must be a part of writing targeted toward professional audiences. The first-year writing program consists of two courses (HONR 200 and HONR 250) that emphasize those goals. Additionally, the Honors College fosters a diverse and inclusive community where all people are valued and differences are recognized as assets. Honors students will enter VCU having been placed in diverse, multidisciplinary “cohorts,” which will be guided along a four-year path of community-based experiential learning, culminating with collaborative capstone projects that will have lasting value for the diverse Richmond community.

College is a time for growth and exploration, but it can also be a time of intense pressure and stress. Therefore, HONR 150 is a required first-year course, designed to teach students skills such as mindfulness practices that will help them to flourish throughout college and beyond.
• Students must achieve a minimum grade of a B in all aforementioned required courses.

• Honors students should achieve a standard of excellence in general education as well as in their major field.

Special opportunities
The Honors College offers a number of opportunities to its student members. Among these are:

The Honors College Student Executive Board – an organization of Honors College students who help determine the course of The Honors College, as well as host social, service and leadership activities for Honors College students.

Honors College internships and independent studies – honors-specific educational programs, often taught in conjunction with academic departments that introduce honors students to opportunities in their fields of interest and within the Richmond community.

The Berglund Seminar Series – weekly discussions on topics pertinent to the wide-ranging interests of honors students. Discussions are led by outstanding guest speakers from the university faculty and administration, and a variety of community leaders.

The Honors College is committed to enriching the students’ academic and personal endeavors. Additional resources and opportunities include:

• An honors undergraduate research program
• Access to the National Scholarship Office
• Honors advising
• Priority registration
• Special library privileges
• First-year and upper-class honors housing options
• Access to first-year and alumni mentorship opportunities
• Global learning experiences
• Honors scholarships