

HONORS COLLEGE

Spring 2024 Course List



Elliott T. Bowers Honors College
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring Honors Courses

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| • PSYC 3331.03: Abnormal Psychology (CRN 25511) | TR 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM | J. Valera |
| • HIST 1302.14: United States History Since 1876 (CRN 20399) | MWF 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | B. Park |
| • POL 2306.05: Texas Government (CRN 21591) | TR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM | T. Waggener |
| • CRIJ 3340.02: Gender and Crime (CRN 20999) | TR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM | C. Gonzalez |
| • CRIJ 3361.02: Comparative Criminal Justice System (CRN 24675) | TR 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM | L. Lesue |
| • BIOL 1401. 06: Environmental Science (CRN 25801) | TR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM | J. Williams |
| • This course does not require an Honors Designated lab section. Please enroll in any biology section | MWF 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | D. Neudorf |
| • BIOL 1407.13: General Biology (CRN 25786) | | |
| • This course does not require an Honors Designated lab section. Please enroll in any biology section | | |

Fall Honors Research

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • HONR 4095.01: Independent Study* (CRN 20309) | K. Bell |
| • HONR 4095.02: Independent Study* (CRN 25215) | K. Bell |
| • HONR 4095.03: Independent Study* (CRN 25219) | K. Bell |
| • HONR 4095.04: Independent Study* (CRN 25220) | K. Bell |
| • HONR 4398.01: Honors Thesis I* (CRN 20307) | K. Bell |
| • HONR 4399.01: Honors Thesis II* (CRN 20308) | K. Bell |

*Registration for thesis and independent study courses by permission of the Honors College Dean, honors@shsu.edu.

Spring Seminars

HONR 3322.01: Journeys (CRN 20298)	W 4:00 PM - 6:50 PM	P. Lewis
---	----------------------------	-----------------

The Journeys seminar invites approximately ten of the most innovative and successful members of the Sam Houston State University community to give one lecture each. Each speaker has one class period to use however they feel is best. Chosen speakers generally detail the paths of their own lives while giving students advice on how to achieve successful and happy lives. Speakers are chosen from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds.

HONR 3322.02: Journeys- Engagement (CRN 25764)	W 11:00 AM - 1:50 PM	J. Wozniak
---	-----------------------------	-------------------

The SHSU motto is "A measure of a life is its service." This Honors Seminar will expand the student's appreciation and understanding of how to go beyond service and to engage with our community. Students will learn the theoretical framework of engaged learning, the various forms of community engagement, and the tools to harness the life-long benefits of experiential learning. This team-taught course will provide students with several different community engagement perspectives and opportunities. Students will venture beyond the university classroom to engage with the local community partners in a mutually beneficial educational experience. It is hoped that students will emerge from the class with an enhanced sense of place and an appreciation of cultural humanity.

HONORS COLLEGE

Spring 2024 Seminar List



Elliott T. Bowers Honors College
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring Seminars

HONR 3342.01: The Word- Sam Houston (CRN 20303)

M 2:00 PM - 4:50 PM

R. Lewis

“Sam Houston: the Man, the Myth, the Legacy”

Sam Houston Museum

Sam Houston is not only a Texas hero, but he also played a large role on the national stage. This course will explore Sam Houston in the realms of politics and sectionalism, interpersonal relationships, diversity and racial matters, and maintaining personal integrity in difficult times. Students will also learn practical methods of presenting historical information through diverse viewpoints in a museum setting. Students will have the opportunity to engage in historical interpretation in a public venue as well as to conduct research utilizing primary documents and artifacts.

HONR 3342.03: Eclipses and Other Cosmic Spectacles (CRN 25216)

M 12:00 PM - 2:50 PM

**S. Miller,
C. James**

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Halley's Comet on the Bayeux tapestry! Cosmic spectacles in the sky are the basis for a new multidisciplinary team-taught honors seminar that includes a field trip to see a total solar eclipse in April 2024. We'll explore eclipses, exploding stars, comets, auroral displays, meteor showers, and other temporary events in the sky through a scientific lens, as well as through the lenses of history, forensics, psychology, literature, art, movies, television, and more.

HONR 3331.01: Culture and Society (CRN 20301)

ONLINE

J. Littlejohn

This course deals with contemporary social, economic, political, and international issues and provides important background information and perspectives on current debates and events. Course Content varies.

HONR 3331.02: Content Creators & Machine Minds: Working with AI (CRN 24366)

TR 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

**C. Nardone,
B. Strubberg,
K. Bennett**

Generative AI promises to transform many aspects of our society, including how we communicate, learn, and work. Some social commentators fear a near future in which AI thinks and makes decisions for us, while others are optimistic about possible collaborations between human creators and these machine minds. Regardless of how we feel about it, AI will affect our digital culture, and we must be prepared to use it in productive and ethical ways. In this seminar, we will investigate this current transformational moment by comparing it to past cultural shifts brought on by technological change. We will also work to apply theories of digital rhetoric and technical communication to engage many current AI tools to create various forms of content. By taking this course, students will gain important insights into AI and develop skills to use it effectively across professional contexts.

HONR 3332.01: Drugs: People, Plants, and Medicine (CRN 25217)

T 3:00 PM- 5:50 PM

The Woodlands

**J. Williams,
S. Buehler**

Plants are crucial to human survival as food, shelter, medicine, clothing, fuel, etc., but they are also important cultural artifacts, carrying different meanings across societies. Moreover, plants have played central roles in shaping human history. Wars, such as the Opium Wars, have been waged over plants and colonial powers relied on slave labor to grow the cash crops of tobacco and sugar cane. Combining approaches from Biology, History, and Medicine, this class will explore the role of plants in human history and culture. Topics will include drugs, medicines, bio-prospecting, colonialism, and slavery.

ONLINE

HONR 3332.02: Technology, Science, Art, & Society in the Novels of Richard Powers (CRN 25218)

P. Eaton

Novelist Richard Powers uses fiction to explore the most pressing and complicated concerns of contemporary society, including climate change, genetics, artificial intelligence, aesthetics, racism, ableism, transhumanism, memory, and neurodivergence. His novels raise questions about ethics, personal and social responsibilities in light of scientific and technological advancement, and the human condition in a rapidly shifting world. In this seminar, we will explore the important work of this contemporary American novelist, seeking to better understand who we are individually and collectively on a planet being transformed by advances in science, technology, and human behavior.