Ramapo College Honors Program

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For more information:
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505 Ramapo Valley Road
Mahwah, N.J. 07430
Our Mission

The Ramapo College Honors Program is a community of faculty and students dedicated to intellectual, creative and moral engagement. Honors students seek excellence through continual guidance and a distinctive curriculum of critical thinking, intercultural and international understanding, experiential learning, service and interdisciplinary studies. The end of the program is the beginning of an enriched and accomplished life.

Benefits of the Honors Program

- Small class sizes with excellent professors
- Priority registration
- Special Honors housing for first-year students in Mackin Hall or Bischoff Hall
- 24/7 access to the Honors Lounge, featuring computers, printer, refrigerator and microwave
- Experience completing graduate-level research
- Additional scholarship opportunities
- All-expenses paid Honors conferences and field trips
- Honors designation on diplomas and transcripts

How do I apply?

Complete the “College Honors Admissions Essay” section of the Common App when applying to Ramapo. Apply by April 1 for priority consideration; after that, applications are considered if space is available.

If invited for an interview, sign up for it online and send us a sample of work that demonstrates your intellectual independence and curiosity and promise for future scholarly or professional work.

Attend a short in-person interview with two members of the Honors staff or faculty. Skype interviews are also available.

If invited to join Honors, inform us of your final decision and prepare for an intellectually engaging college career!

“The Honors Program prepared me for my current role as Senior Research Technician in the Molecular Epidemiology Laboratory at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center by teaching me how to think innovatively and boldly. In the Honors Program, you are given the tools necessary to troubleshoot in any situation and face adversity with poise and solution-finding strategies. The program’s courses and community of students foster an environment where young adults are encouraged to challenge and creatively express themselves by engaging in thought-provoking discussion.”

– Keinga Sadeghi, Class of 2015, Biology major
Community

“My favorite part about the Honors Program is that it allowed me to fully immerse myself in the tightly knit community of my fellow peers and friends. Whether it was spending time in the Honors Lounge, partaking in Honors events, or assisting new students during the interview process, I enjoyed every bit of it because it has enriched my college experience as a whole.”

– Gagan Namburi, Class of 2019, Bioinformatics major

Co-Curricular Activities

- Extreme Team-Building
- Minute-to-Win-It Night
- Talent Show
- Toys for Tots Dance
- Halloween Dance
- Honors Development Groups

Annual Events

- Honors Family Day
- Lunch with a Professor
- Honors Symposium
- Academic Field Trips
- National and Regional Honors Conferences
- Alumni Reunions

Curriculum

Five of the six courses listed below replace General Education courses.

- Honors 101: Honors First-Year Seminar
- Honors 110: Honors Social Science Inquiry
- Honors 201: Honors Studies in Arts & Humanities
- Honors 220: Honors Global Awareness Seminar
- Honors 325: Honors Values & Ethics Seminar
- Honors 499: Advanced Honors Research (Independent Study)

- 170 Students in the Program
- 1311 Average SAT
- 3.9 Average High School GPA
- 3.7 Average GPA of Ramapo Honors Students at Graduation
Research

Students complete a Senior Project and receive support to conduct graduate-level research or advanced creative projects.

Study Abroad

We provide special scholarship support to Honors students who study abroad. Nearly a quarter of Honors graduates study abroad compared to 10 percent of students college-wide.

Conferences

The Honors Program sends students to national and regional conferences in cities across the country every year.

Leadership

Unique opportunities to lead through the Honors development groups, Honors Peer Facilitation, Honors executive board, the special events committee, Honors admissions team, and Honors office aide positions.

“The decision to study abroad inspired my research for the senior thesis project – a multimedia package documenting the effects of the Greek bailout crisis on small business owners in the Pangrati neighborhood of Athens. This enriching experience allowed me to apply the techniques of field reporting and ethnographic research learned in the classrooms of Ramapo College about the streets of Athens. Combining audio, visuals and traditional storytelling techniques to create immersive multimedia, the project is designed to meet the needs of the audience in the digital age. Working closely with expert faculty, I’m excited to have produced a piece that not only reflects my academic career at Ramapo College but will also launch me forward in my professional aspirations.”

– Mehnaz Ladha, Class of 2018, Communications major

“The Honors Conference trips have been among my favorite experiences in the College Honors Program. Through the City as Text excursions, I have been able to see and learn about many great places throughout the United States I never thought I would have the opportunity to visit. The best part is that we went on these trips while formally presenting academic research to some of the brightest minds in the country; an opportunity not many people our age are afforded.”

– Andrew Herrera, Class of 2018, Environmental Studies major
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