

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

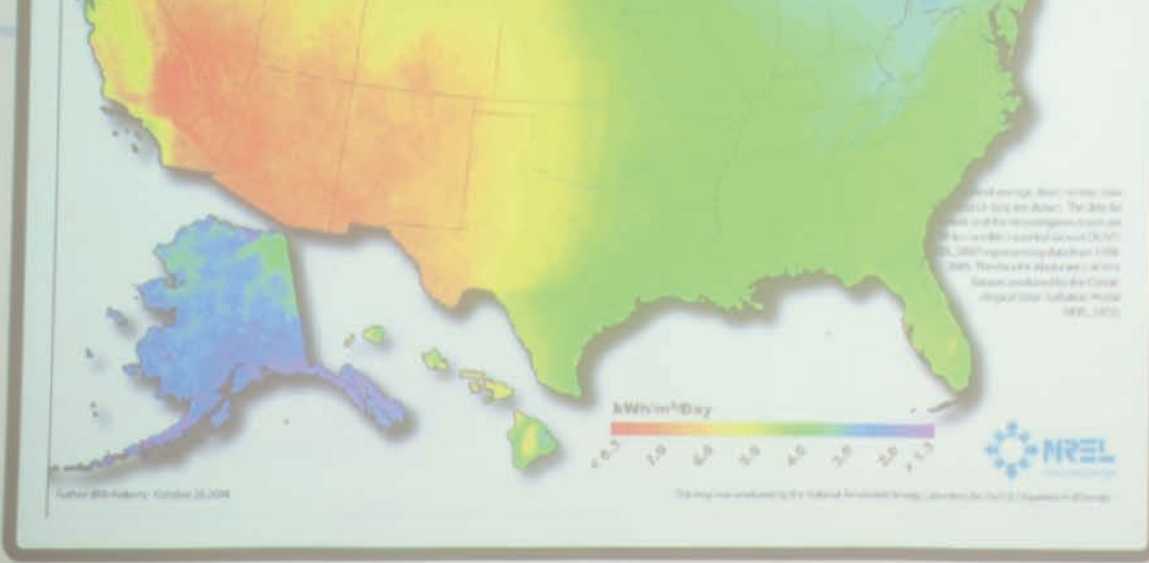
HONORS PROGRAM



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HONORS PROGRAM. CHALLENGE YOURSELF.

Are you searching for academic challenges beyond lectures and tests? Do you want to make a difference on campus and beyond? Do you see yourself as a leader among your peers?

The Point Park University Honors Program enables you to study, gain experience and learn to be a leader. Go beyond the classroom to explore and discover yourself. Be challenged to approach course requirements from different perspectives and develop leadership skills through active participation in events on and off our downtown Pittsburgh campus.

BELONG TO AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY

As a Point Park honors student, you benefit from enhanced opportunities on campus and in the community:

- Priority course registration
- A greater variety of course projects, activities, research opportunities and materials – including access to the digital version of The New York Times
- Lectures by guest speakers
- Community service and service-learning projects
- Cultural events and trips in the Pittsburgh area and to honors conferences across the country.
- Learning and living spaces in Thayer Hall to build a sense of community and transition smoothly to campus life
- A chance to help plan community and service-learning projects each semester, with honors program mentors for counsel on academic matters among others

“ The honors courses and conferences have allowed me to intellectually blossom. I’ve been able to explore topics I am interested in as well as delve further into topics discussed in class, and this has helped me to enrich my education even more.”

RHIANNA DAVIS

– **B.S. in Business Management, '20**



A CAREER-FOCUSED HONORS EDUCATION

At Point Park, an early focus on developing practical skills and moving beyond them in creative ways will serve you well throughout your professional life or prepare you for graduate study. Here are some ways our honors students accomplish this:

1. Honors students complete three one-credit add-ons to courses. These include service-learning projects, novel learning experiences (such as travel, research, work as a teaching assistant) and enhancements to capstone courses. Students are not charged for the additional credits.
2. Honors students have many occasions for community- and service-learning, as well as leadership opportunities, through courses and the Honors Student Organization. This student-run organization is one of the most active on campus, and it leads numerous programs and activities throughout the year.
3. Sophomores, juniors and seniors apply to become mentors to help new students take advantage of opportunities.
4. Honors students benefit from membership in regional and national honors organizations and often serve on faculty-student committees and administrative task forces.
5. Honors students have presented their research and other academic work at conferences and have been published in academic journals.
6. Several students have been elected regional honors council student representatives and have taken an active role in planning conferences and advocating for fellow students.

YOUR CREATIVITY LEADS TO RECOGNITION

As an honors student, you are encouraged to develop initiatives that reflect your interests and engage your intellectual curiosity. You can excel inside and outside the classroom while being recognized for achievements above and beyond traditional coursework.

As sophomores, juniors and seniors, honors students have the opportunity to apply for student assistant positions throughout the University that pay stipends of \$1,000 per semester. Also, all students are eligible for book awards based on their academic and community service records.



SAMPLE HONORS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS:

- Annual 9/11 remembrance and Flight 93 National Memorial visit
- Annual Pittsburgh Great Race volunteering
- National Collegiate Honors Council and Northeast Regional conferences
- Pittsburgh cultural and professional meetings and events
- Susan G. Komen Foundation fundraiser (Point Park's Honors Program received Susan G. Komen Greater Pennsylvania's Promise Keeper award in 2018 for its ongoing support.)
- Veterans Living History programs with local partner organizations
- "Welcome to Honors" orientation program (before classes begin)



“ Being in the honors program gives us even more experiences to volunteer, communicate with others and become more aware of issues in our society. ... We have a lot of opportunities to help others and be involved on campus, which has helped me make more connections and realize that being a student is about more than going to class and taking tests.”

KEERA FRYE

– B.A. in Broadcast Reporting, '20

THESE NEW STUDENTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY INVITED INTO THE HONORS PROGRAM:

- Individuals awarded a presidential or transfer presidential scholarship
- Individuals with a 3.5 OPA and 1250 SAT or 25 ACT score

These students must accept the invitation with a written statement of intent submitted online.

OTHER STUDENTS INTERESTED IN JOINING MAY APPLY:

- Submit an application at PointPark.edu/HonorsApp
- Write a statement of intent
- Write an essay on one of the quotations listed on the application

That completes the application process.

HONORS PROGRAM CLASSES AND COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

In recognition of their extra efforts, honors students reserve their classes before all other students each semester. They then meet with advisers and work with the honors program director to ensure all honors program requirements will be completed upon graduation.

To complete the program, students must:

- Complete honors courses to earn 21 credits, which includes three one-credit add-ons to courses
- Maintain a 3.0 cumulative QPA
- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative QPA in honors courses
- Work collaboratively with professors in honors contract classes as needed

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students who have completed honors classes with a “B” grade or higher at other colleges may be able to transfer up to nine credits as honors classes. For more information, contact the program director.



“ My favorite part of being in the Honors Program is definitely the family atmosphere and all-around community support. As one of the honors floor residents, I bonded incredibly fast with other honor students.”

NATHAN NICKLAS

– **Cinema Production Major**
– **Class of 2021**

Assistant Professor Sera Mathew, Ph.D.
Honors Program Director
smathew@pointpark.edu

Assistant Professor Brendan Mullan, Ph.D.
Honors Program Assistant Director
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Honors Program Office
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Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity and Diversity Initiatives:

This policy affirms Point Park University's commitment to nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and the pursuit of diversity. Point Park University does not discriminate on the basis of: sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, age (40 years and over), ancestry, individuals with disabilities, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, height, weight, genetic information, marital status, caregiver status or familial status, in the administration of any of its educational programs, activities or with respect to employment or admission to the University's educational programs and activities.

This policy is in accord with local, state and federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Pittsburgh Human Relations Act. Inquiries regarding these regulations and policies, or complaints of discrimination, should be referred to the vice president of human resources, phone number 412-392-3952. Inquiries regarding Title IX and the Title IX regulations should also be referred to the Title IX coordinator or to the deputy Title IX coordinators: the associate provost, the vice president of human resources or the vice president of student affairs. The Title IX coordinator, Vanessa Love, may be reached at vlove@pointpark.edu, 412-392-3980 or 201 Wood Street, Student Center, Room 703, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

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To learn more:

PointPark.edu/HonorsProgram

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