

**Annual Key Assessment Findings and Curricular Improvements
University Honors Program
2010-2011**

Key Assessment Findings

For those graduating in 2011, the completion rate of University Honors Program course sequences was above 2010, though not as high as 2006. Tracks of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies, and Humanities all rose in popularity, while Environmental Studies and Social Sciences saw lower rates of completion. The number of University Scholars doubled, while the number of students who completed one track was down.

Honors Track	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Humanities	7	5	3	12	6	18
Social Sciences	7	6	2	8	6	4
Theology and Religious studies	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	6	20
Media Studies	1	0	2	2	3	0
Environmental Studies	0	1	1	4	4	3
Philosophy	26	26	28	32	28	29
Honor	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
University Scholars	13	11	12	8	7	17
Completed Two Tracks	9	8	7	6	8	8
Completed One Track	24	22	23	26	14	10
<i>Total Completing one track or more</i>	46	41	42	40	29	35

Curricular Improvements

TRS 201, a required course for all freshmen as part of the First Year Experience, will now count for the Honors Theology and Religious Studies track. A new Honors track in Liberal Studies has been developed for Nursing students; we expect it to get administrative approval from the Undergraduate Board and the Academic Senate this fall. Students would be able to select a number of Honors classes from the UHP in order to create their own Honors track. In addition, Dr. Shoemaker has created a University Honors Program Advisory Committee, and one of their missions is to analyze and improve the Honors Program curriculum.

**Student Learning Assessment Rubric
University Honors Program Rubric
HSCP 490: Honors Capstone
Spring 2011**

Trait	Number of students Exceeding Expectations (%)	Number of students Meeting Expectations (%)	Number of students Acquiring Skill (%)	Total number of students
<i>Critical Thinking</i>	5 (31%)	10 (62%)	1 (7%)	16
<i>Creativity</i>	8 (50%)	7 (43%)	1 (7%)	16
<i>Oral Communication</i>	5 (31%)	8 (50%)	3 (19%)	16
<i>Written Communication</i>	0 (0%)	14 (87%)	2 (13%)	16
<i>Personal and Intellectual Engagement</i>	4 (25%)	10 (62%)	2 (13%)	16

The above rubric represents students who took the Honors Capstone Seminar. Seniors wishing to graduate from The Catholic University of America as University Scholars are required to complete a senior Honors capstone course, taught by the Director of the UHP. We do not have information for previous years, but this year saw every student pass the Capstone course.

The majority of students met expectations, and a few exceeded in most traits. In future years, we are looking for more students to move into the "Exceeding Expectations" column, and no students in "Acquiring Skill."

For the 2011-2012 school year, the capstone course will be markedly smaller, and we anticipate more one-on-one interaction with the instructor to improve student skills.