

CHICO STATE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

UPPER DIVISION THEME COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

One General Education goal is to provide you the opportunity to integrate and apply skills and knowledge gained through your college experience to issues and areas of life you will face as a citizen of a complex world. You should also be able to integrate your major with seemingly unrelated knowledge. To help achieve these goals, *nine of the requisite 48 GE units* must be selected from an upper-division theme. Honors in GE students are required to take the Honors Upper Division Theme. You should not start on your upper division theme until you have completed 45 semester units.

HNRS 300 Honors Ethnic Studies: Methodologies (Spring)

In this course, students explore Ethnic Studies research methodologies. The course content is variable with a focus on at least one of the following groups: American Indian/US Native American Studies, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, and Chicano/Latino Studies. The course is centered on experiential learning opportunities to engage in introductory explorations of research methodologies. The course uses both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies; therefore, students are expected to produce course projects that demonstrate their understanding in both approaches.

HNRS 350 Multidisciplinary Science (Fall/Spring)

This course approaches a topic or problem in the physical and/or natural sciences from multiple disciplinary perspectives. This course also welcomes transfer students to the Honors Program, and introduces the two Honors Program capstone options in undergraduate research/creativity (HNRS 390-91) or leadership (HNRS 392-93). The specific content of the course varies by section and instructor.

HNRS 390 & 391^{WI} Interdisciplinary Thesis or Creative Project (Fall/Spring)

As the first course in a two-course capstone, students will learn how to choose an interdisciplinary topic for a thesis or creative project, and how to begin the research/creative process with a focus on social science approaches to their topic.

As the second course in a two-course capstone, students will continue the research/creative process with a focus on humanistic approaches to their topic, and will complete an interdisciplinary thesis or creative project.

HNRS 392 & 393^{USD} *Leadership, Power & Change (Fall/Spring)*

This fall semester course examines the issues of power, influence, and change within the context of world cultures. The course includes comprehensive review of issues and perspectives on leadership, multidisciplinary and classic theoretical approaches and literature, moving to the examination of evolving contemporary beliefs of leadership, power, and change. Through a process of readings, self-discovery, group observations, film, and case studies, students will identify, observe, and analyze change philosophies in historical and cultural contexts.

In this spring semester course, students will study leadership and its impact on social, economic, and political structures and institutions from a contemporary perspective. Throughout the course, students will identify, apply, and reflect on aspects of leadership development, power, influence, and social change. Topics cover leadership theories, personal assessment and development, motivation, power, followership, group dynamics, equity in leadership, conflict resolution, change process, and citizenship. Through a process of selected readings, self-reflection, group observations, and case studies, students will identify, observe, analyze, and apply new leadership behaviors through integrated project-based application.