The University Honors Program offers events designed to provide University Honors students opportunities outside the classroom for community-building, inquiry, and personal growth. Focused on community and learning, these events encourage student and faculty engagement.

The University Honors Program thanks all professors and staff that help make this program blossom!
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FEBRUARY

HONORS SOIREE*
Friday, February 14th | 4-6 p.m. | Davies Center; Ojibwe Ballroom

Honors Student Steering Committee, Honors Living Learning Community
This “informal formal” will be the largest Honors event of the semester. It will include delicious appetizers, variety music, a dance floor, art displays, a talent showcase, fun games, trivia, photo opportunities, prize drawings, and more! You may bring one guest regardless of their Honors program membership. Dress is “come as you like.” Contact honors@uwec.edu for more details.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES
Wednesday, February 19th | 12:30-1:30 p.m. | Centennial Hall 1917

Storm Jacko, Study Abroad Advisor
This event is designed to help you learn how to research and apply to a UWEC study abroad program. You’ll learn about what to consider when selecting a program, how to start an application, when the deadlines are, and more. Storm Jacko is a study abroad advisor in the Center for international Education and having studied abroad twice, will also share his own examples and travel experiences. His passion is to provide opportunities he was given to other students. Make sure to come with questions!
INTRODUCING LITERARY SPACE OPERA SF: BANKS, LECKE, REYNOLDS, ROBINSON, LIU CIXIN
Tuesday, February 25th | 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. | McIntyre Library 2023

Dr. Janice Bogstad, McIntyre Library
Space Opera is a term in Science Fiction used to describe stories that create space adventures spanning many galaxies, with a central hero on a vast mission to save humanity. The Star Wars franchise followed this model. But in the 1990s and up to the present, a new form of space opera has kept the adventure but changed the formula. Starting with writers like the Scottish Iain M. Banks, authors like Anne Lecke, Alastair Reynolds, Kim Stanley Robinson and Liu Cixin, the Chinese author of the new hit movie, Wandering Earth, are redefining the place of seemingly insignificant individuals in our human future among the vast reaches of space. This presentation will discuss the changes in Space Opera fiction and present a few works of these award-winning authors.

MARCH

FALL 2020 COURSE PREVIEW*
Tuesday, March 3rd | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Hibbard Hall 100

Honors Staff and Faculty
Come learn more about your class offerings for the Fall 2020 semester. This is a great opportunity to meet many Honors professors, faculty, and staff to listen to their visions for the classes. Students are encouraged to ask any questions and to enjoy the free pizza, lemonade and cookies!

COMMUNITY BUILDING
Thursday, March 5th | Noon - 12:50 p.m. | Hibbard Hall 222

Benita Wagner, Center for Service-Learning Coordinator
Benita has been involved in community activities and service throughout her youth in small town Industry, Illinois, in Springfield Missouri during and after college, and the Eau Claire community for the past 20 years. At this event, she will share how she started serving her community, how it affects her everyday life and thinking, and challenges Honors students to use their unique talents and abilities to affect communities in a positive way. This is a great chance to ask questions and learn how your University requirement has a greater impact beyond allowing you to graduate.
HEALING TOUCH
Wednesday, March 11th | Noon - 12:50 p.m. | Centennial Hall 3914

Dr. Der-Fa Lu, Nursing
This event will be both interesting and informative. As a professor for the nursing department, Professor Lu has plenty of experience here and away from Eau Claire as a Healing Touch practitioner. This presentation will introduce you to the awesome world of energy healing.

HOW TO MAKE HONORS YOUR OWN
Tuesday, March 17th | 7:00-7:50 a.m. | Ho Chunk; Davies Center 320

Pam Golden, Kris Knutson, and Laura Wilson
Enjoy a free breakfast with the wonderful faculty and students who do so much for the University Honors Program. Find out how YOU can get involved and benefit from all the University Honors Program has to offer. Clear up your confusion about Honors Contracts, find out how to get started on your Senior Thesis, and hear about leadership and advising opportunities. What a great and informative way to start your day!

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE AND MEDICAL SCHOOL
Monday March 30th | 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. | Centennial Hall 2924

Danielle Wojtak, Honors Alum + Graduate student
Danielle Wojtak is a UWEC alum currently studying for her Doctorate of Naturopathic Medicine degree at the National University of Natural Medicine in Portland. She will be giving a virtual presentation of Naturopathic Medicine and its role in Wisconsin as well as a look at the process of getting into graduate school and what it’s really like to be in medical school. This is a great opportunity for all students interested in this topic, or to hear about what grad school is really like.

APRIL

CRISIS, COMMUNICATION, AND COMMUNITY: MORE THAN AN ALLITERATION
Thursday, April 2nd | 11:00 – 11:50 a.m. | Centennial Hall 2824
Professor Mary Worley, Communication and Journalism
In the wake of a devastating crisis, communities are challenged to discover how they can bounce forward and discover a new normal. Floods, tornadoes, food insecurity, mass shootings—few examples among many that not only have a direct impact on individuals, but spark national conversations through news and social media. This discussion with Mary Worley will focus on the process of community resilience and how communication can foster critical change at individual, community, and systemic levels.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR SUMMER
Thursday, April 8th | 1:00 - 1:50 p.m. | McIntyre Library 2023

Michelle Shrader + Morgan Meyer, Career Services
Summer is a great opportunity to build your resume and help you prepare for that dream career path. This workshop will discuss how to discover opportunities and ways to market the skills you’ll gain from your summer experiences on future applications! From research to internships to professional development seminars, the summer offers many opportunities for you to learn, develop, and grow. Morgan and Michelle both work in Career Services office which is part of the Advising, Retention, and Career Center (ARCC). They help students prepare for success after college by aiding in finding meaningful jobs and internships, preparing applications and more!

RESUMES THAT WILL GET YOU THE JOB
Wednesday, April 15th | 1:00 - 1:50 p.m. | Centennial Hall 1917

Dr. Kris Knutson, Communication and Journalism
This session will provide you with helpful tips for framing your experiences as you seek to secure the perfect job. We will discuss how to target your message to specific employers or positions, and how to frame your educational and employment experiences to maximize success. Dr. Kris Knutson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism who is currently serving as an Honors Faculty Fellow.

Insights into Public Views on Climate Change in China and the United States: Comparing Knowledge
Thursday, April 16th | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. | Centennial Hall 1924

Dr. Eric Jamelske, Economics
The importance of the roles of China and the United States cannot be overstated regarding the development/implementation of international climate change mitigation policies. Surveys were
conducted in China and the U.S. in 2015 to investigate people’s support for an international climate treaty. A climate change acceptance/knowledge/concern score (from -10 to 10) was calculated for respondents in both years using a set of eight questions from the survey. In both 2015 and 2017, scores for Chinese were on average higher than Americans, while the American scores were more variable. Additionally, public views of climate change in these nations are diverse and complex and may often be uninformed or misinformed. Come to this intriguing and informative presentation to learn more about this study and get free pizza!

STARTING THE GRAD SCHOOL SEARCH
Wednesday, April 29th | 1:00 - 1:50 p.m. | McIntyre Library 2023

Dr. Kris Knutson, Communication and Journalism
Considering your next steps after graduation from UWEC? This session will provide you with helpful tips for beginning your graduate school search. We will discuss communication strategies so you can confidently connect with the right people at the right time [AND] organizational strategies so you can make sure you have everything you need to be successful. Dr Kris Knutson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism. She is currently serving as an Honors Faculty Fellow.

MAY

PROVOST HONORS SYMPOSIUM*
Friday, May 1st | 1:00 – 6:30 p.m. | Davies Student Center, 3rd floor

Faculty and Staff
At the 10th annual Provost Honors Symposium, Blugolds will showcase their hard work in research, scholarship, and creative activity. Faculty mentors and departments nominate projects and students to present their best work to the campus and Eau Claire community, showcasing exceptional student research, projects, and creative activity. The research conference presentations are followed by a hors d’oeuvres reception hosted by Provost Kleine.

CHALLENGES AND REWARDS OF BEING AN EDUCATOR
Friday, May 8th | 11:00 – 11:50 a.m. | Centennial 2931
Ted Molkentin, Honors Student + Mathematics Secondary Education Major
Ted Molkentin is a second-year mathematics secondary education student from Jackson, Wisconsin. He has always had a passion for math, teaching, and mentoring others. Through his time serving as a mathematics tutor at UWEC, his placement experiences, and tutoring mathematics and chess in high school, he has gained extensive teaching experience. At this event, he will be speaking to his involvement in the Center for Urban Teaching or CfUT. Through CfUT, Ted has attended professional development conferences, toured urban schools around the nation, and taught summer school wherein he taught mathematics, science, and religion to 7th and 8th grade students in the city of Milwaukee. Ted also served as a support teacher for a reading class. He will be presenting on how this experience helped him develop disciplinary, lesson planning, communication, and teamwork skills in a way that he would have never been able to do within the typical classroom. In his talk, he will be presenting more information on his experiences with CfUT, and some of the challenges and rewards of teaching in an urban setting.

UNIVERSITY HONORS GRADUATION CEREMONY & RECEPTION*
Friday, May 22nd | 5:30 – 7:00 pm | Schofield Auditorium

University Honors Graduates, Faculty & Staff
This ceremony is a salute to the approximately 75 new University Honors graduates with families, friends, colleagues, and supporters. Everyone is welcome to come celebrate. Each student will be recognized, photos will be taken, and cake will be served!