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EU SCHOLARS PROGRAM GUIDE

The EU Scholars Program

The EU Scholars program stresses three crucial areas of development for students enrolled in the program: the development of personal character, the pursuit of intellectual excellence, and the responsibility to put what they have learned into action for the service of their local and global communities. This three-part goal is summarized in the motto “Be – Know – Do.”

Connection to the Evangel University Mission

Evangel University is a comprehensive Christian university committed to excellence in educating and equipping students to become Spirit-empowered servants of God who impact the Church and society globally. The EU Scholars program is a direct implementation of this mission. We accomplish this by emphasizing three crucial areas of development for students enrolled in the EU Scholars program: the development of personal character, the pursuit of intellectual excellence, and the responsibility to put what they have learned into action for the service of their local and global communities.

EU 20 Outcomes and Program Goal

The EU Scholars program works in conjunction with the EU 20 outcomes. EU Scholars are expected not only to fulfill the EU 20 outcomes, but to do so with excellence, as an example to the wider Evangel community. As such, the EU Scholars program has articulated its goal as follows:

“The Evangel University Scholars Program nurtures Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered students who thoughtfully consider all points of view and positively interact with people of differing worldviews, appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of knowledge, and reflectively articulate their goals for personal leadership.”
Admission to the EU Scholars Program

Application

Admission to the EU Scholars program is by application only. All applications must be approved by the Scholars Program Director. Students of all majors who meet admissions requirements are encouraged to apply. There are two components needed for application:

1. Students must fill out the EU Scholars Program Application and return to the Scholars program director. Applications are available in the Center for Student Success.
2. Students must submit a reflective essay along with their application, stating their personal vision statement and reason for wanting to participate in the Scholars program.

Admission Requirements

New students:
3.6 high-school GPA and 28 ACT/1310 SAT

- Reflective essay requirement waived for Founders Scholarship recipients; must provide proof of current Founders Scholarship status.

Current students:
3.6 GPA and an Evangel faculty recommendation letter

Transfer students:
Honors college student in good standing at previous institution (must provide transcript)

Continued Membership & Graduation

A student’s first semester in the program is considered a “provisional membership” before becoming a full member of EU Scholars. Students will automatically be considered a full Scholars member as long as they continued to meet all program requirements after their first semester.

Students are expected to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.6, and to remain in good standing with the university (no infractions resulting in Alert Level 2 disciplinary status).

All EU Scholars are reviewed annually to ensure continued adherence to program standards and progression towards program requirements. Students must earn a minimum of 2 units per semester to maintain active status in the program (see “Requirements” below).

Failure to meet program standards or to maintain active status in the program will result in the student being placed on “probation.” The student will have one remedial semester in which to return to compliance with program standards. Students who successfully return to program standards will be reinstated in good
standing; failure to return to program standards after the remedial semester will result in dismissal from the program.

To graduate as an EU Scholar, a student must demonstrate active participation in the program for at least two academic years (four semesters).

Advising EU Scholars

The Center for Student Success (CSS) coordinates the EU Scholars program under the leadership of the CSS director and staff. They will work in close partnership with faculty honors advisors in each department. Honors advisors help the student plan for how they can meet the program requirements within their field of study, and review the student’s progress periodically to ensure the standards of the EU Scholars program are upheld.

Important Notes:

- **The honors advisor does NOT take the place of a student’s primary program advisor.** Students are expected to continue a close relationship with their program advisor to ensure they are progressing towards graduation.
- **Honors advising is separate from the mentoring process (described below).** Though honors advisors are welcome to serve as mentors as well, there is no expectation that they do so.

Requirements

Students’ progress in the EU Scholars program is measured in terms of “units,” which are earned by participation in academic, service, mentoring, or other qualified pursuits. **Units are not equivalent to credit hours,** but provide a way to quantify and measure matriculation in each of the three areas of emphasis. Units will generally be defined as follows:

- 3 units = 3 credit class
- 2 units = executive leadership roles
- 1 unit = less than 3 credit class
- 1 unit = active involvement roles
Students are required to complete 56 units by graduation, with minimum requirements in each area: 8 “Be” units, 24 “Know” units, and 12 “Do” units. Additionally, each student’s Capstone Experience will count for 4 units. The 8 remaining units are electives, and can come from any area or combination of areas of the student’s choice.

Students and advisors use an electronic portfolio to monitor progress. Students must earn a minimum of 4 units per semester to maintain active status. These 4 units can come from any combination of the Be-Know-Do units.

### Core Curriculum Requirements

The EU Scholars program does not require any substantial changes to the core curriculum requirements. However, the following courses are strongly encouraged for Scholars as options to fulfill core requirements while also earning Scholars units:

- BIBL 111 Essential Christianity – Honors Section
- ENGL 212 Composition and Rhetoric (fulfills Effective Communications Option)
- HUMN 230 Introduction to Western Humanities (fulfills Reading & Imagination Option)
- HUMN 240 Culture (fulfills Reading & Imagination Option)
- LEAD 250 Personal Leadership or LEAD 350 Community Leadership (fulfills Behavioral & Social Sciences Option)
- HUMN 430 Humanity (fulfills Humanities Option)

**These courses are dual purpose! They are not mandatory for the Scholars program, but they are a great way to put your course work towards both Core Curriculum and EU Scholars requirements.**

### Personal Character Development – “Be”

The mentorship emphasis offers a distinctly Evangel character component to the EU Scholars program by fostering a commitment to personal character development. Students earn honors units in the “Be” area by participating in the EU Scholars mentoring program and by completing courses focused on development of personal and group leadership. Students must earn a minimum of 8 units in this category.

### Mentoring

Students are required to participate in the EU Scholars mentoring program. Mentors are volunteers across the Evangel community who have completed training in the methods and objectives of the program. Mentorship sessions take place within specific, preset parameters of time/scope and last approximately 6-8 weeks. Each mentoring session completed is worth 1 unit.
During their first mentoring term, students will be matched to a specific mentor to be introduced to the mentoring process at Evangel. For subsequent terms, students will have the option to continue with the same mentor or to pair with a new mentor.

Students may participate in one mentoring session per semester for as long as they are active in the EU Scholars program.

**Students are required to complete a minimum of two mentoring terms; at least one of these terms must be during their first year in the program.**

**Leadership Development**

Students earn honors units for completing the following courses emphasizing character and leadership development:

- **LEAD 200: Seminar on Campus Leadership** (1 unit)
- **LEAD 250: Personal Leadership** (3 units)
- **LEAD 350: Community Leadership** (3 units)

**Students are required to complete LEAD 200 and either LEAD 250 or LEAD 350.**

**Intellectual Excellence – “Know”**

The EU Scholars program supplements the students’ course of study in their chosen discipline. Students must earn a minimum of 24 units in this category, but are granted a wide degree of flexibility in earning these units. Students should work closely with EU Scholars personnel and the honors advisor in their respective areas to design their course of study. All EU Scholars must meet these basic requirements in the “Know” area:

- **HON 100 Scholars Seminar**
- Minimum of 2 Honors Contract courses (upper-level courses – see below for details)
- **THEO 320 Pentecost – Honors Section**
- **HON 400 Scholars Senior Seminar** (taken in conjunction with Capstone Experience)

Apart from these requirements, students have much flexibility to allow for the demands of their chosen discipline and to provide opportunity to follow their interests. Students are encouraged to be creative in their approach to demonstrating their fulfillment of the EU Scholars mission. If a course or other academic endeavor is not listed here, please consult with the Scholars Program Director to discuss the possibilities for earning honors units for it. The following courses are pre-qualified to fulfill the requirements of the “Know” component.
General Education Courses

- HON 100: Honors University Seminar (1 unit) – **Required course**
- BIBL 111: Essential Christianity – Honors Section (3 units)
- ENGL 212: Composition and Literary Analysis (3 units)
- HON 400: Scholars Senior Seminar (1 unit)

Interdisciplinary Courses

- HUMN 230: Introduction to Western Humanities (3 units)
- HUMN 240: Culture (3 units)
- HUMN 430: Humanity (3 units)

Other Upper-Level Courses

To provide for application to a variety of majors across disciplines, the EU Scholars Committee has granted considerable flexibility in granting honors units for upper-level courses. These are often courses within a students’ major/minor degree requirements, though they may simply be advanced topics of interest to the student. Courses that are not pre-qualified for honors units may be considered for honors units by completing an Honors Contract with the faculty instructor.

Honors Contract Courses

Students earn honors units for upper-level courses by entering into an Honors Contract with the course instruction prior to completion of the course. All Honors Contracts must be based on voluntary negotiation between the student and faculty member and clearly outline the expectations. The Contract specifies that the student must earn a grade of B+ or higher in the course, and stipulates an additional component of learning that the student will complete to earn honors units for that course. Contracts are subject to review and approval by the EU Scholars Program Director. Contracts must be entered prior to midterm of the semester, and all requirements must be completed by the end of the semester in order to earn honors units.

Research Components

Students can earn 1 honors unit for research associated with their coursework. “Research” for the purposes of this component is defined broadly as projects which **a)** are associated with completion of course requirements; and **b)** make a significant contribution in the student’s area. To receive honors units, students must complete an Honors Contract with their honors advisor listing the nature of the research component and approving it as an honors-level project. (Follow procedure listed above for completion of Honors Contract.)

*Note: the unit earned for course-associated research can be combined with the units earned in an honors class (i.e. completion of an honors-qualified class plus completion of a qualifying research component would earn the student a total of 4 units); or the research component can be taken a stand-alone component (i.e.*
the student may not wish to take the course for honors units, but still can count the research component for 1 unit).

Enrichment Experiences

Students in the EU Scholars program are encouraged to seek out experiences which broaden their depth and breadth of understanding. Students can earn honors units for such experiences. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Semester Reading Circles
- Epiphany readings
- Recital / Concert / Play attendance
- Academic Conference attendance
- Other academic experience as approved by honors advisor and/or EU Scholars director

The honors advisor plays a key role in determining what experiences qualify as academic enrichment for EU Scholars purposes, as this can vary by discipline. To earn honors units for enrichment experiences, the student must gain approval from their honors advisor or the EU Scholars program director, signified by completion of the Enrichment Experience Approval form.

Similar to the Honors Contract, the Enrichment Experience Approval form represents a voluntary agreement setting forth reasonable expectations for receiving Scholars units for the students’ experience. The specific requirements for this aspect are designed to give students and honors advisors a degree of latitude in determining what experiences qualify, in an effort to recognize and encourage a broad degree of learning experiences.

Students are required to provide evidence of their attendance at the event, and a short reflective paper discussing how the event enhanced their academic development. Students are encouraged to arrange for enrichment credit before the event in question. However, students may receive enrichment credit retroactively so long as their advisor approves and they submit the enrichment approval form within the same semester as the event occurred.

Action Commitment – “Do”

EU Scholars are expected to demonstrate the application of godly character and intellectual development making their own contributions to the campus and beyond. This requirement moves students towards the practical application of their achievements and abilities in the service of others. Students earn honors units in this area in several ways.

Mentoring

Students who complete the required training can serve as a peer mentor for other students. Student mentors receive 2 honors units per mentoring session. Only students in their third or fourth year of study and
who have successfully completed at least two sessions of mentorship previously at Evangel may serve as peer mentors.

**Research**

Students can receive honors units for research or academic performance which furthers the advancement of the university as a whole. This typically involves presenting that research in a public venue in some manner, such as an academic conference, publication, or other venue which serves to advance knowledge in that field. Research for these purposes is defined broadly as a project or undertaking to achieve advanced knowledge within a given field; this includes both original research seeking to advance the state of the field and high-level synthesis or application of the state of research in a field. This is not limited to the so-called “hard sciences.” Students are encouraged to be creative in their undertaking of research. For example, research in music or the arts would certainly be conducted differently than research in biology or psychology. Students should consult with the designated honors advisor in their departments to discuss possibilities.

*Note: this is separate from the course-related research component in the Know section above. Students may earn honors units in either section provided they meet the qualifications, but the same project may not be counted for units in both Know and Do sections.*

To earn Scholars units for research, students must fill out an Action Commitment Agreement form with their honors advisor. This agreement stipulates the requirements that the student will complete to earn honors units for such research; generally, this will include both research completion and presentation, and may include additional components at the faculty’s discretion (refer to “Honors Contract courses” above). Venues for presentation of research may be within or outside of the University community; please consult with the Scholars Program Director to consider the potential opportunities available to present research.

Agreements are subject to review and approval by the EU Scholars Program Director. Agreements must be entered prior to midterm of the semester, and all requirements must be completed by the end of the semester in order to earn honors units.

**Internship**

Students can earn honors units for internships or other relevant work experience in their chosen field, including paid or unpaid internships, and for credit and not-for-credit internships. Honors units are awarded based on contract with the honors advisor, subject to the approval of the EU Scholars Program Director.

To earn honors units for internships or other work experiences, students must fill out an Action Commitment Agreement form with their honors advisor and/or the Career Services Specialist in the Center for Student Success. This Agreement stipulates the requirements that the student will complete to earn honors units for such work experience; generally, this will include providing proof of the experience, justification of the experience being granted honors units (i.e. how was this experience above and beyond a normal student employment situation?), and a reflective component demonstrating the student’s growth during this experience. Agreements are subject to review and approval by the EU Scholars program director. Agreements must be entered prior to midterm of the semester, and all requirements must be completed by the end of the semester in which the work was performed in order to earn honors units.
Teaching Experience

Students can earn honors units for serving as peer tutors, academic coaches, or faculty assistants in official capacity for the University, subject to the approval of the EU Scholars Program Director. Examples of such positions include but are not limited to: academic coaches in the Center for Student Success, writing tutors in the Write Place, lab assistances in the Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, etc. Questions about which positions qualify for honors units should be directed to the Program Director.

- Note: this aspect does not include student-teaching experience; students wishing to earn Scholars units for their student-teaching experience should refer to the “Internship” section above.

To earn Scholars units for teaching experience, students must fill out an Action Commitment Agreement form with their honors advisor and/or supervisor. This agreement stipulates the requirements that the student will complete to earn honors units for such work experience; generally, this will include providing proof of the experience, justification of the experience being granted Scholars units (i.e. how was this experience above and beyond a normal student employment situation?), and a reflective component demonstrating the student’s growth during this experience. Agreements are subject to review and approval by the EU Scholars program director. Agreements must be entered prior to midterm of the semester, and all requirements must be completed by the end of the semester in which the work was performed in order to earn honors units.

Campus Leadership

Students can receive honors units for serving in a variety of campus leadership roles in clubs and organizations across campus. The value of the honors units awarded varies based on the duration of service and the level of responsibility and autonomy.

The following active involvement roles pre-qualify for receiving 1 unit per semester:

- ESGA Senator
- AB member
- Devotional Leader in a residence hall
- Crosswalk or other ministry team member
- EU Launch Leader
- EU Bed and Breakfast Host
- Honor society or other club officer (must be an active club on campus)

The following executive leadership roles pre-qualify for receiving 2 units per semester:

- Residence Assistant in a residence hall
- ESGA Executive position
- AB Executive position
- Athletics team captain
- Crosswalk or ministry team leader

*This list is not comprehensive.* Students are encouraged to be creative in their consideration of how to develop and demonstrate their leadership potential, in keeping with the EU Scholars foundational belief that leadership can be exercised in a wide variety of circumstances. Other activities and leadership roles are encouraged and will be considered on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Scholars Program Director.
Capstone Experience

Students must complete an advisor approved capstone project appropriate to their field and areas of interest. This project will vary based on individual; it is intended to both demonstrate student’s level of academic achievement and to show self-reflection on the student’s personal development throughout their years as an EU Scholar. Presentation of this capstone project is a required element for completion; the venue and manner of presentation can vary based on the discipline. Students must work closely with their honors advisor and the EU Scholars Program Director to complete this project; both the honors advisor and Program Director must approve of the project and the final product for completion. The Capstone Experience is worth 3 units.

*Note: the course HON 400 Scholars Senior Seminar is designed to be taken in conjunction with working on the Capstone Experience. Completion of both HON 400 and the Capstone will result in earning a total of 4 units.*