

HON280T: Cultural Enrichment Introduction to Scholarship, Leadership and Service Spring 2005

1 Credit Class (Credit/No Credit Grading)

Mondays, 4:00-4:50

Tappan Hall Basement Classroom

A BlackBoard (Bb) site is used for this course: <http://Blackboard.muohio.edu>

This section is open to Tappan Hall residents ONLY and counts as an Honors Experience for students in the program. It is also an exclusive benefit for Oxford Scholars.

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Please Note: You have the distinct advantage of having your instructors living on campus. Please feel free to call anytime up until midnight with questions or feedback. This may be about the course or any other matter you wish to discuss.

We will also be working closely with the other section of HON 280. Both classes will share many of the same events and facilitators. The instructor for the other section of HON 280 is Dan Early (earlyd@muohio.edu).

Course Description and Objectives

HON 280T is a one-credit course designed for first-year students who live in the first-year Honors & Scholars residence hall. This course aims to develop a sense of community within the hall and prepare you to make the most of your college experience. We will also spend time exploring what it means to be an Honors and Scholar student within a diverse university community.

Toward this end, this one-credit course will encourage you to:

- Construct new knowledge by investigating the notion of community;
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of diversity and its relationship to community;
- Communicate effectively orally or in writing;
- Reflect self-consciously on your own values and educational goals;
- Collaborate with other learners productively and purposefully;
- Demonstrate responsible citizenship by putting knowledge into practice for the betterment of your residence hall community and the larger Miami and Oxford communities.

A Special Note about this Course

The Honors and Scholars Theme Learning Community is a relatively new program. It is in its fourth year of existence. This is its third year in a residence hall without other themes (during 2001-2002 it shared Tappan Hall with Leadership, Excellence, and Community). Because of this, the advisory council for the Honors and Scholars Community is trying to add programs and experiences for its students to enhance and solidify what it means to live in this community. Throughout this course, you will be asked to provide feedback and suggestions about how we can improve the Honors and Scholars experience. Please feel free to provide feedback about the course or the Community at any time.

Writing in this Course

After each event you attend, you must complete a two page reflection paper (equivalent to a typed, double spaced paper with 1 inch margins, 10 or 12 point font). These are due 48 hours after the event and should be emailed to the contact person for that event.

There are also readings assigned in class. You should write two page reflection papers on these readings and hand them in at the beginning of class.

Your papers should include a brief (one paragraph) summary of the event and an analysis/interpretation of it. In the paper, incorporate the knowledge you gained from the follow-up discussion, if there was one. Feel free to use the paper to explore ideas or thoughts. I want to give you a lot of freedom (within reason) to write your paper in a way that is most meaningful to you.

Grading

HON 280 is a credit/no credit course. To earn credit for this course, students must earn a minimum of 100 points. You may earn points on the following assignments and activities:

Assignment	Points
4 Year Learning Goals Draft 1	5 points
4 Year Learning Goals Draft 2	15 points
4 Year Learning Goals Final Draft	30 points
Follow-up reflection papers on all events (5 points each, 6 events)	30 points
In-class Readings and Papers (5 points each, 2 readings/papers)	10 points
Class-Initiated Program planning and follow-up paper	30 points
Total Possible (100 needed to pass):	120 points

Points will be assigned on the basis of quality. For example, full credit or 5 points will be given to superb evaluation papers, 4 for good papers, 3 for average, 2 for poor, and 1 for assignments that do not meet requirements (such as length). All papers will be due at the beginning of class on their assigned date. For every day that a paper is late, 1 point will be deducted from the final score for that assignment.

If students do not meet the 100 minimum point total, they may attend other campus events, with prior approval of the instructor, and write two page reflection papers for up to 5 points.

Course Requirements

There are FIVE main requirements for this course that you must meet to receive credit:

1. Attend all meetings of the class as outlined in this syllabus or as deemed necessary by the instructor.
2. Read assigned chapters and write two page reflection papers on them. These should be turned in at the beginning of class.
3. Attend/complete six event/activities over the course of the semester (these are listed in the attached event calendar), attend follow-up discussions, and write reflection papers.
4. Plan and implement one academic student-initiated program with a group of your peers for Tappan Hall.
5. Complete all drafts of your 4 Year Learning Goals Educational Plan.

1. Attendance and Participation Policy

Because this course strives to build a sense of community and is based on a lively exchange of ideas, it is crucial that students attend regularly and come to class prepared to discuss the readings or events. Students are allowed to miss one class meeting (including special events and activities) without penalty. **Ten points will be deducted from your overall course grade for every missed class session thereafter.**

2. In-Class Readings

You will be assigned three readings over the course of the semester. Each of these will be provided to you the class period before they are due. Students should read the articles and bring a paper copy of their two page follow-up paper to the next class.

3. Activities and Events

You are required to attend/complete a total of 6 events/activities over the course of the semester. Some of these events will include follow-up discussions either before or immediately after the event. You are required to attend the follow-ups for events you attend. If there is no follow-up, see the directions listed below under "Reflection Papers."

1. You *must* attend one event in each of the three categories below and write two page reflection papers for each:
 - Lecture/Discussion
 - Performing Arts
 - Let's Talk Dialogues
2. You must attend one of your peer's class-initiated programs and write a two page reflection paper. The program your group puts on does not count towards this total. The dates for these will be determined later.
3. You *must* attend an Art Gallery Tour during one of our classes and write a two page reflection paper.
4. You *must* attend the Undergraduate Research Forum on Wednesday, April 20 and write a two page reflection paper.

4. Class-Initiated Program

The class will be divided into four groups of five. Each of these four groups will be responsible for putting on one academic program after Spring Break. Groups and the week you are

responsible for will be assigned at the beginning of the semester. These programs will take place in Tappan Hall, but are open to anyone.

Requirements for student-initiated programs:

- The group will submit one written proposal for a program by the date listed at the end of this syllabus. This proposal should include the date and time of the program, an itemized list of costs, space requirements and equipment (if any), publicity requirements, guests or speakers and their contact information, a timeline of when tasks will be completed, and duties assigned to individual group members. (This proposal will help me guide you in the process. The more detail I have, the more I can help you.)
- All group members are expected to contribute to the program planning and all are required to attend their own program.
- Submit a minimum two page follow-up report (from each group member) reflecting on the program planning process, the program content, and the successes/shortcomings of the program.

5. Educational Plan

This is a new assignment that we are piloting this semester. Over the course of this semester, we will help you to develop a 4 year plan for your education and experience at Miami. Beyond *just* academics, this plan will help you look at your college experience holistically and help you clarify your goals as they relate to your experiences with scholarship, leadership and service. The instructors will provide guides to help you in writing this plan. It is due three times and each submission will be an expansion and revision of the previous one. Please feel free to provide us feedback as we try this new experience. We hope it will be useful.

Other Information of Note

Miami E-mail Accounts and BlackBoard

Each student enrolled in the class will need an active MU e-mail address (@muohio.edu) that is checked daily. This will be used as our primary means of communication since we do not meet every week. A BlackBoard site will be set up for this course, which you should check throughout the week (hopefully the site will be set up by our second class meeting time). Updates for event locations, follow-up discussions, and other information will be posted on the site.

Keep Records

For your own benefit, you are strongly advised to keep a good record of all events you have attended and reflections you have sent. Accurate records will help us ensure that you receive the credit you are due for all of the events you attend.

Programs Not Listed On the Syllabus/Faculty Mentor Program

You may choose to attend one program that is not listed on the event listing for this course. If you are in the Faculty Mentor Program, one of the activities that you will undertake with your Mentor can be counted as a non-listed event. You must, however, receive prior permission (48 hours in advance) from me before being able to count this as an event for the course. I will make the determination as to the category for which it will count. You will be required to write a two page reflection paper just as if you attended a program without a discussion.

Academic Misconduct

Students are expected to behave honestly in their learning and to demonstrate responsible academic conduct. All work submitted should be original work done by the student. Cheating and other forms of academic misconduct undermine the value of a Miami education for everyone, and especially for the person who cheats. Please refer to the Miami University Student Handbook, section 01.501, for more specific information. Violations of the Academic Misconduct Policy can result in penalties ranging from grade reductions to suspension, dismissal, or expulsion from the University. Misunderstanding of the appropriate academic conduct will not be accepted as an excuse for academic misconduct.

CRUCIAL DATES FOR HON 280T

January 10	First Class
January 24	Second Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet in your groups to begin brainstorming program ideas. <i>Assignments due today:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read article “Grades: Can You Perform Without the Pressure” by Inge Bell and write a two page reflection paper on it to be submitted in class. ▪ List of programs you plan on attending.
February 7	Third Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decide on program and divide up tasks. <i>Assignments due today:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “4 Year Learning Goals” First Draft
February 14	Program Proposal DUE by the end of the day (Please email this to me and include the email addresses of all group members so I can return it to the entire group with suggestions.) Optional (but strongly encouraged) time to meet during the class period to finalize your program proposal.
February 22 (M/T Switch Day)	Fourth Class The presenter (if there is one) should be contacted prior to class. Troubleshoot programs. Discuss successes and obstacles. <i>Assignments due today:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read article and write a two page reflection paper on it to be submitted in class. ▪ “4 Year Learning Goals” Second Draft
	Optional (but strongly encouraged) time to meet during the class period to modify your program proposal.
March 14-18	Spring Break
March 21	Fifth Class Final class before you put on your program. <i>Assignments due today:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read article and write a two page reflection paper to be submitted in class.
March 22- April 18	In-Hall Programs (There will be four groups of five students each working on one program. The instructor will work with students to ensure their programs are sufficiently spread out.)
April 18	Sixth Class <i>Assignments due today:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Class-Initiated Program Paper Due ▪ “4 Year Learning Goals” Last Draft
April 20 (Wednesday)	Attend the Undergraduate Research Forum 8AM-5PM, Shriver Center
April 25	Seventh and Final Class End-of-course celebration and returning of papers and other feedback.

NOTE: We may add or change the dates of the classes as needed. You should plan on keeping this class time free every week in case we add or change the date of one of our classes. The Art Gallery tour will be added as a date not listed on this syllabus.