

# Carol Farber Honors Program

## Student Handbook

## **Introduction**

The purpose of this handbook is to aid both prospective and current students in getting the most from the Carol Farber Honors Program at Nassau Community College. The Carol Farber Honors Program was founded more than 30 years ago and enables students to maximize their academic growth while at NCC. The Carol Farber Honors Program affords you enhanced learning opportunities while enabling you to make friendships with other academically motivated students. The information contained in this handbook is designed to help you maximize your Honors experience and to ensure success in the Carol Farber Honors Program.

### **What are the Benefits of being Enrolled in the Honors Program?**

- Small classes with Nassau's finest professors
- Priority registration
- Superb preparation for transferring to a four-year institution
- Dedicated Honors advisors
- Dedicated transfer counseling
- Assistance with applying for scholarships
- Access to the Honors student study space
- Extra activities designed to enrich the entire educational experience
- Sense of belonging to a community of scholars
- Recognition at Honors & Awards Night ceremony for all graduates
- Personal satisfaction derived from participating in a special quality curriculum
- All courses are denoted as Honors courses on your official transcript
- The ability to earn the official Honors designation when you graduate

### **What are the Academic Requirements for Admission to the Honors Program?**

From High School: Students graduating from high school should have at least a 90 GPA, competitive SAT/ACT scores and mastery level achievement on multiple Regents Examinations.

From within NCC: Current NCC students who achieve a 3.5 GPA will be invited to join the Program.

The admissions decision is based on the "whole student." Students who are close to the admissions requirements are encouraged to apply by sending an email expressing your interest to [HonorsProgram@ncc.edu](mailto:HonorsProgram@ncc.edu). Alternate evidence of academic excellence may be considered.

## **What is the Honors Designation?**

The Honors Designation is a special notation that is placed on your official transcript upon graduation if you meet the criteria (see next section). The designation may give you an advantage when transferring to a four-year institution and applying for jobs (most jobs request your official transcripts when you apply) as it informs those reviewing your application of the advanced coursework you've completed at NCC.

## **What are the Requirements for an Honors Designation?**

To earn the designation of "Honors Student" on your transcript you must satisfy the following requirements:

- Complete 12 credits in Honors courses
- Earn a 3.5 or higher GPA at the time of graduation

To earn the designation of "Distinguished Honors Student" on your transcript you must satisfy the following requirements:

- 1 Honors English course (ENG 108 OR ENG 109 OR Honors Literature)
  - 1 Honors Humanities course
  - 1 Honors Social Science course
  - 1 Honors Laboratory Science course OR 1 Laboratory Science course designed for Math/Science majors:
    - BIO 109/110/201+ OR CHE 151/152/201+ OR PHY 122/123/151/152/222/223
  - 1 Honors Mathematics course OR 1 Mathematics course designed for Math/Science majors:
    - MAT 122/123/200+
  - 9 Elective Credits from Honors Courses
- NOTE: Laboratory Science course designed for Math/Science majors OR Mathematics course designed for Math/Science majors may be used for six of these credits

- Earn a 3.5 or higher GPA at the time of graduation

## **Honors Medallion**

Students who achieve either of the designations are awarded an Honors Medallion to wear at

graduation and are invited to Honors & Awards Night which is held in the beginning of May each Spring semester.

### **Priority Registration**

Priority registration allows students to register before other students at the College. Priority registration typically begins at 8am on the first day of registration (a date that will be sent via email) and continues until the time you'd normally be able to register based upon the number of credits you've earned. Only students considered in "Good Standing" (see section below) have access to priority registration.

### **Honors Club**

The Honors Club is a collective of students that serve as an intermediary between students and the Carol Farber Honors Program in order to provide outreach and recruit potential honors students. In addition to this the Board of the organization maintains and monitors the Honors Lounge and provides hands-on support to members attempting to develop, publish, or present independent research. Contributing members may develop resume material through attending and presenting at conferences, publishing to academic journals, participating in peer tutoring programs, or holding board positions. Board elections are held at the start of each academic year. The Honors Student Organization also engages in active fundraising initiatives for charitable causes and scholarships for current and incoming Honors students.

### **Honors Student Study Space**

Connected to the Honors Office (Bradley Hall Room 1) is the Honors Student Study Space. This area gives students a space of their own to meet and collaborate with their fellow Honors students. The space also provides students with a comfortable seating area to study or relax, tea, coffee, a mini-fridge, computers, and printers. The space is open whenever the Honors Office is open. Hours are listed on the Blackboard calendar and are regularly emailed out.

Students are expected to use the lounge according to the regulations listed in the Student Code of Conduct. Inappropriate use of the lounge may result in you being barred from the lounge and/or dismissed from the Honors Program.

### **How Do I Maintain "Good Standing" in the Honors Program?**

To maintain good standing in the Carol Farber Honors Program, students must take at least one Honors course per semester and maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher. Any student who does not

maintain a 3.5 GPA will be placed on academic warning. Excessive withdrawals without proper explanation may also result in the student being placed on academic warning. A student may be removed from the Honors Program if they remain on academic warning for two or more semesters in a row.

While the Program requires that students take at least one Honors class per semester to be considered in “Good Standing”, it is expected that students will make every effort to take additional Honors courses each semester.

Students who have already completed 12 or more Honors credits may be waived from the requirement of needing to register for at least one honors course in order to remain in “Good Standing” based upon their remaining degree requirements.