

Skidmore Honors Forum Quick Facts

The Honors Forum completed the seventh year of implementation of its curriculum and co-curricular program. The Honors Forum graduated its fifth class, and a number of programmatic refinements and revisions continued to occur. At the conclusion of the AY 2005, Honors Forum Council (HFC) again elevated the prominence of the program in the community and notes several issues that will occupy our attention during AY 2006.

HONORS FORUM MEMBERSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS, DEGREE PROGRESS, RETENTION

Membership: Currently there are 340 members of HF: 263 women, 77 men, approximately 80% women; 20% men. For the first time Honors Forum invited students in the Regents College in London First-Term program from the Class of 2007 to join Honors Forum based on their spring term grades in residence at Skidmore; thirteen (13) students of the thirty-four (34) were invited to apply for membership. Seven (7) were accepted. From the Class of 2008 students in the London program, eight (8) students of thirty-seven (37) qualified. **The Class of 2009:** Given a "target" entering class of 670 students and an entering cohort (to date) of thirty-eight (38) students, just under six (6%) per cent of the entering class will be comprised of Honors Forum members.

Given a current membership of three-hundred forty (340) students and Skidmore's spring total enrollment of 2175 students, Honors Forum membership currently comprises fewer than sixteen per cent (16%) of the student population. There were thirty-seven (37) graduates in the Class of 2005, just under seven per cent (7%) of the graduating class of five-hundred thirty-one (531). Membership has moved well beyond the 10% of the student population that shaping documents envisioned. Honors Council and Student Executive Committee have revisited membership criteria and continuation and have agreed that a priority for AY 06 is restoring membership numbers to the two-hundred range.

Retention: Honors Forum students who withdrew from Skidmore: To date, six (6) HF members of the graduating Class of 2005, ten (10) HF members of the Class of 2006, three (3) HF members of the Class of 2007, and nine (9) HF members in the Class of 2008 withdrew from Skidmore.

Majors: Honors Forum majors in the Classes of 2005 and 2006 represent thirty-nine (39) declared majors and minors. English is the leading major and minor with thirty-four (34) members in HF, followed by Government with eighteen (18), and Psychology with twenty-three (23). Among the natural sciences, Environmental Studies with fourteen (14) is the largest.

College Honors: As we would expect, Honors Forum members received numerous prizes and all-college honors. Of the thirty-seven (37) HF members in the Class of 2005, thirty-six (36) received all-college honors (one graduated with an * and will complete degree requirements in August). Twelve (12) are Phi Beta Kappa members, thirty-six (36) are in Periclean, fifteen (15) received Academic Awards, three (3) were Periclean Scholars, and one (1) received a President's Day Award.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM	HF COURSES 1998/99	HF COURSES 1999/2000	HF COURSES 2000/01	HF COURSES 2001/02	HF COURSES 2002/03	HF COURSES 2003/04	HF COURSES 2004/05
Total	18	27	33	43	35	32	44

Gender

Class 2005	Class 2006	Class 2007	Class 2008	Total
Male 7 = 19%	Male 12 = 17%	Male 26 = 23%	Male 32 = 27%	Male 77 = 20%
Female 29 = 81%	Female 60 = 83%	Female 86 = 77%	Female 88 = 73%	Female 263 = 80%

Honors Forum Graduates Since Program Inception – 2001-2005

Year	Total Graduating Class	Number of Honors Forum Graduates	Percent of Class Honors Forum Graduates
2001	499	14	3%
2002	550	25	5%
2003	537	32	6%
2004	546	28	5%
2005*	531	37	7%
Total	2663	136	5%

*Based on preliminary data

Class 2005

3.72	Average CUM GPA
3.17	Average Number Honors Forum Courses Completed
8.28	Average Number Honors Forum Credit Hours Completed

Recently Developed Honors Courses:

- Calculus II
- Chemical Principles II & Intensive Chemistry
- Ecology of Food
- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Introduction to Dance History, Literature, and Repertory
- Junior Great Books Training & Junior Great Books Practicum
- Literacy and Social Power
- Modern Political Thought
- New England Begins
- Principles of International Politics
- Reel History In the 20th Century
- Social Psychology: Investigations of the Self
- Special Topics In Non-Fiction Writing: Documentary Film Writing
- The Victorian Illustrated Book
- Writing Seminar I: The Mind's I
- Exploring the Visual
- The Enlightenment
- Sleep and Dreams
- Citizen Studentship (course designed by students, in *Scope*, Summer 2004)

Honors Independent Studies: Working in consultation with faculty members, and with the appropriate approval, students may pursue independent studies in course or academic-interest related areas for variable credit. Such study allows both students and their faculty members the luxury of in-depth inquiry focusing on an area of common scholarly interest.

Recent Honors Independent Studies:

- An Investigation of the Components of Social Success
- Exploration of Alternative Collegiate Education
- Issues in the History of Statistics
- Object Studies in the Tang Teaching Museum
- Skidmore Student Voting Rights
- Spanish Film
- The American Civil War through the Eyes of Ken Burns
- The 1000 Books Project with Schuylerville (NY) Schools
- Junior Great Books Training and Practicum