

University of Lynchburg Catalog Addendum

The University of Lynchburg Catalog is the official catalog for the undergraduate programs at the University. The catalog is published annually and serves as a reference for the academic year. The following content does not appear in the original published catalog for 2023-24, but is valid for the 2023-24 academic year. The University of Lynchburg Catalog Addendum allows for critical policy updates and academic courses and programs approved outside the catalog publication cycle to be included in the official University catalog in a timely manner.

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Accreditation

Replaces the current content on page 10, Accreditation section, first paragraph.

The University of Lynchburg is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. The University of Lynchburg also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of the University of Lynchburg may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling 404.679.4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (sacscoc.org).

Westover Honors General Education Program

Additional content, page 19, following the Writing Enriched Courses section and prior to the Major Programs section.

Westover Honors College students (called “Fellows”) complete a special general education curriculum of forty-six hours. The Westover Honors sequence of general education courses provides students the opportunity to develop a mature, deep, and broad understanding of human values in the contemporary world. Upper level interdisciplinary colloquia enrich the general education course sequence. The Senior Thesis gives Westover seniors the opportunity to create a study that demonstrates their personal academic achievements in their chosen fields of study. Each course in the Westover curriculum addresses at least two of the four thematic pillars of Westover, and most engage all four pillars: Globalization; Ethics; Sustainability; and Gender.

General Education Courses for Honors

The General Education Courses for Honors are connected through content and skill development. Westover faculty design courses that challenge students while tailoring instruction to meet students educationally and intellectually. While developing students' skills in reading, writing, research, speaking, discussion, and presentation, Westover faculty foster the ability to engage contemporary topics from a solid understanding of contextual foundations. Students are encouraged to address contemporary questions with broadmindedness, remaining open to honesty and truth, using evidence-based thinking, interdisciplinary inquiry, and carefully considered self-expression through their writing, discussion, and the free exchange of ideas with their peers and instructors.

Westover Honors Colloquia

Westover Honors Colloquia are specially selected for each academic year to promote students' intellectual curiosity. They are designed expressly to address contemporary topics with academic rigor. Faculty across all disciplines of the University create and teach Westover colloquia, which are open only to Westover Fellows. Colloquia are typically limited to 15 students in order to promote thoughtful exploration of challenging ideas, offer individual experience in presentation, and lead students to integrate each colloquium's topics with their own major fields of interest. Enrolling in three colloquia between sophomore and senior years helps Honors students enhance their capacity for critical thinking, logical reasoning, creative problem solving, and independent thought.

Senior Thesis

Colloquia are designed to prepare the student to engage in the creative and critical thinking necessary for success in the senior thesis. The thesis demonstrates the student's abilities to develop an academic study of depth, engage with a problem of contemporary relevance, and present the results of the study effectively. It is an opportunity to build on the knowledge acquired in the student's major (or minor) and to explore in depth an issue, question, or creative challenge of special interest to the student.

Recommended Sequence of Honors Courses for Students

First Year

- HONR 100: Westover World
- HONR 103W: Writing the World [writing enriched]
- HONR 110: Traditions and Revolutions
- HONR 121: Beyond Numbers
- HONR 131: Globalization and its Discontents

Second Year

- HONR 211W: Exploring the Literary Landscape [writing enriched]
- HONR 212W: Reason and Responsibility [writing enriched]
- HONR 221: Imagination and Creation
- HONR 200: Natural Resources Stewardship

Third and Fourth Years

- Westover Colloquia: Nine hours from HONR 341-346

Fourth Year

- Westover Senior Thesis Project

Breadth of Knowledge

SACSCOC Section 9: Educational Program Structure and Content, Part 3(c) states: “[The institution requires the successful completion of a general education component at the undergraduate level that...] ensures breadth of knowledge. These credit hours include at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural science/mathematics. These courses do not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession.”

The Westover Honors General Education program meets this requirement through its Areas of Study curriculum, which is required of all Westover Honors Students. All three SACSCOC areas above are represented in the required courses below.

Humanities/Fine Arts

- HONR 110 Traditions and Revolutions (3 credit hours)
- HONR 211W Exploring the Literary Landscape (3 credit hours)
- HONR 212W Reason and Responsibility (3 credit hours)
- HONR 221 Imagination and Creation (3 credit hours)

Social/Behavioral Sciences

- HONR 131 Globalization and its Discontents (3 credit hours)

Natural Science/Mathematics

- HONR 121 Beyond Numbers (3 credit hours)
- HONR 200 Natural Resources Stewardship (4 credit hours)

Student Outcomes: Westover Honors General Education

SACSCOC Section 8: Student Achievement, Part 2(b) states: “[The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results in the areas below:] b. Student learning outcomes for collegiate-level general education competencies of its undergraduate degree programs.”

All courses included in the Westover Honors General Education program (HONR) are aligned with the Westover Honors College's General Education Core Competencies, which include both thematic and skills-based competencies. Westover's Core Competencies are:

- Globalization*
- Ethics*
- Sustainability*
- Gender*
- Academic Writing
- Critical Thinking

As a small program, the Westover Honors College streamlines its core competencies and student learning outcomes assessment. The various competencies are rotated across semesters, with several addressed each semester. Because all students enroll in the same honors courses (HONR) with the exception of colloquia, all students will address all core competencies in multiple courses during their Westover Honors experience.

Contacts for Westover Honors General Education Program

Inquiries about the Westover Honors General Education Program may be directed to:

- Dr. Beth Savage, Dean of the Westover Honors College
- Dr. Laura Kicklighter, Associate Director of the Westover Honors Program
- Dr. Price Blair, Assistant Director of the Westover Honors Program

*Designates inclusion as a Westover Honors College Pillar.