

Honors College **101**



2026-2027

HONORS COLLEGE WELCOME WEEK

August 25–September 4

Scan the QR code to see the full schedule of Honors College Welcome Week activities, or visit honorscollege.rutgers.edu/welcome-week.

Don't miss these signature events—the Honors College Induction Ceremony, Class of 2030 Photo, Common Read Author & Community Conversations, Welcome Barbeque, Intercultural Meetup, HC Involvement Fair, and more!



Honors College 101

We're glad you're here! It's time to put on your Honors College shirt and be

Inspired, Empowered, and Connected.

You're among friends...some new to Rutgers and some who are returning and ready to welcome you.

In these pages, you'll learn how to thrive on The Banks as an Honors College Scholar:

- ◇ Honors College Traditions and resources
- ◇ Tapping into and building your network of support
- ◇ Tips for transitioning to the Honors College from our Honors Mentors
- ◇ HC events, requirements, scholarships, programs, and workshops
- ◇ Rutgers at large resources
- ◇ Wellness, Counseling, and Mental Health Information
- ◇ Important dates
- ◇ How to graduate as an Honors College Scholar or Honors College Scholar with Distinction

As you enter, it's important to explore what it means to be part of the HC—a community where we collaborate across disciplines, embrace our differences, use our creativity and imagination, serve our communities, and tackle complex issues in the world together. You'll learn how to transform your ideas into action and how you can serve the world on whatever path you choose.

You'll also learn what it means to be part of a learning-living community committed to advancing inclusion and equity so that all can thrive. At the Induction Ceremony, we'll ask you to join us in affirming our commitment to our mission with the Honors College oath:

Where there is something to learn, I will explore.

Where there is a new voice, I will listen.

Where there is a need, I will help.

For now, look around, say hello to the person next to you, and look for opportunities to engage and connect.

The HC Team

HC Traditions AND RESOURCES

HONORS COLLEGE TRADITIONS

Honors College Traditions are events to bring our community together in unique ways. We wholeheartedly encourage you to come, participate, and lead when you're ready.

- ◇ **Induction and Convocation Ceremonies**—celebrate your beginning as an HC student and your success upon completion of your degree
- ◇ **Welcome and Summer Sendoff Barbeques**—gather to celebrate the start and end of the academic year
- ◇ **Class Photo**—join for this historic opportunity
- ◇ **HC Involvement Fair**—see how you can get involved at the HC
- ◇ **Resource Roundtable**—learn about HC and Rutgers resources
- ◇ **Internship & Research Mixer**—explore your academic and career interests with upper-grade HC and graduate students
- ◇ **Coffeehouse**—hear fellow HC students and share your talent

GET TO KNOW 5 SEMINARY PLACE

- ◇ **All first-year students have 24-hour access to the first floor**
- ◇ **Fireside Lounge**—you'll find a piano as well as a refrigerator, sink, microwave, and toaster oven
- ◇ **North Lounge**—commuter-friendly amenities, plus game tables
- ◇ **Bookcase** (East Lounge)—to borrow from and donate to
- ◇ **Dougherty Lounge** (2nd floor)—to study in a quiet spot
- ◇ **Faculty Fellow Apartments** (1st & 2nd floors, North Wing)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU

- ◇ Monday newsletter, **Inside the Honors College**, for all things HC, including events and reminders
- ◇ Thursday newsletter, **Honors College Weekly Opportunities**, for ways to build your academic and professional portfolio
- ◇ **Honors Academic Updates**
- ◇ **Student Insights**—HC Student Blog, Roving Reporter videos, features on our website, and our Instagram channel
- ◇ **Digital Screens and Bulletin Boards**—for HC opportunities throughout the year

KEY CALENDARS

HONORS COLLEGE EVENTS CALENDAR: honorscollege.rutgers.edu/events

RUTGERS ACADEMIC CALENDAR: nregistrar.rutgers.edu/undergrad



EXPERIENCES THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Expand your view, explore the world, and learn hands-on through opportunities at the HC and beyond that can change your life in extraordinary ways you may not have imagined:

- ◇ **Learn how to find an internship or research opportunity**—come to the **Internship & Research Mixer on Friday, September 25**
- ◇ **Create your account now on the “Handshake” platform to see internship opportunities**—careers.rutgers.edu
- ◇ **Look for a Research Project**—aresty.rutgers.edu
- ◇ **Come to HC events**—from guest lectures and teach-ins to social, wellness, and service events like bingo night, studio night, community cleanups, and the Heart & Sole 5K
- ◇ **Get involved**—come to the **HC Involvement Fair on Sunday, August 30**
- ◇ **Become an HC student leader**—from mentoring opportunities to the HC Ambassadors, Honors Programming Committee, and Media Team—honorscollege.rutgers.edu/leadership-opportunities
- ◇ **Study abroad for a semester or year**—global.rutgers.edu/study-abroad—or **take a Service Learning trip**—volunteer.rutgers.edu
- ◇ **Pursue a Distinguished Fellowship**—learn about the Delta Scholar program—honorscollege.rutgers.edu/delta-scholars
- ◇ **Fellowships at Rutgers and beyond**—newbrunswick.rutgers.edu/fellowships-listings & lgfellowship.rutgers.edu
- ◇ **Take a small group Byrne Seminar**—newbrunswick.rutgers.edu/byrne-seminars

HONORS COLLEGE WEBSITE

CURRENT STUDENTS SECTION

Visit honorscollege.rutgers.edu/current-students or scan the QR code below to create your HC experience. We encourage you to explore the opportunities for community, enriched academics, professional development, leadership, service, and more throughout your Honors College experience. Get involved and tap into the multifaceted support afforded you, including school-based Honors College academic advising, Honors College staff, Faculty Fellows, honors mentors, and resident assistants.

Also on the HC site, check out:

- ◇ **Calendar of Events**
- ◇ **Community Engagement**—connect with the HC community
- ◇ **Scholarships**—current information on achieving and retaining merit scholarships—honorscollege.rutgers.edu/scholarships
- ◇ **Student Success**—growth opportunities and your network of support



Your NETWORK OF SUPPORT

HC staff, advisors, Faculty Fellows, and student leaders are dedicated to supporting you in your transition to college. We'll help you find your community, connect with mentors, discover ways to meet your wellness needs, pursue your academics, and more so you can ultimately thrive and succeed.

Below is your network of support—connect with individuals for guidance and support on a range of issues.

HONORS COLLEGE STAFF

◆ For help with transitioning to and navigating Rutgers, basic needs, and special honors experiences, connect with:

J.D. Bowers, *Dean of the Honors College*—special honors enrichment opportunities like Capstone research, distinguished fellowships, and study abroad or ideas for a successful student experience

Krista Klein, *Associate Dean*—student success and community engagement; supporting students with personal development and leadership opportunities; building community; and financial, housing, and basic needs

◆ For academic and professional development support, connect with:

Andrea Rydel, *Assistant Dean and Director*—academic enrichment, including connecting with research and campus departments to elevate your honors experience and professional portfolio, the HC Merit Pin award, and the Honors Peer Mentor Program

School-Based Honors College Advisors—visit honorscollege.rutgers.edu/academic-advising to see a list of advisors by schools

◆ For student programming, wellness, and residence hall issues, connect with:

Domenic Nalbandian, *Assistant Director*—leadership opportunities and student programming

Ellen Walsh, *Douglass-Honors College Community Program Coordinator*

Justin Campanella, *Residence Life Coordinator*—life in the residential space at 5 Seminary Place, including well-being and safety

Shan Reeves, *Community Based Counselor*—wellness and mental health support (see inside back cover)

◆ Business staff who help keep the Honors College running whom you may interact with:

Kamini Chopra, *Senior Department Administrator SPVR*

Anna Witek, *Director for Digital Experience & Technology*

Donel Young, *Senior Director for Marketing & Communications*

Janet Zhan, *Business Manager*

HONORS COLLEGE FACULTY FELLOWS

Faculty Fellows provide opportunities for you to connect, share ideas, enjoy special events, and more.

◆ **Residential Faculty Fellows**—they live at 5 Seminary Place alongside Dean Bowers and host programs for all Honors College students:

Trip McCrossin—Philosophy, School of Arts and Sciences

Ashley Mont—Biomedical Engineering, School of Engineering

◆ **Affiliated Faculty Fellows**—they also host programs:

Mason Ameri—Disability Employment, Rutgers Business School

Douglas Cantor—Political Science, School of Arts and Sciences

Jeff Friedman—Dance, Mason Gross School of the Arts

Humberto Jimenez—Pharmacy Practice and Administration,
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy

Kenneth Sebastian León—Latino & Caribbean Studies and Criminal Justice,
School of Arts and Sciences

Mariya Naumova—Finance & Economics, Rutgers Business School

Yonaira Rivera—Communication, School of Communication and Information;
Douglass-Honors College Community

Lauren Ryals—Music Education, Mason Gross School of the Arts

Kristen Springer—Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences; Faculty Director,
LGBTQ+ Learning Collaborative at the HC

Lili Xia—Environmental Sciences, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

STUDENT MENTORS

Honors Community Mentors live throughout the HC communities, each dedicated to supporting the Honors College experience for students in residential honors housing and extended communities, and for students who commute.

Honors Peer Mentor Program connects first-year students who have enrolled in this special program with trained upper-grade peer mentors with similar academic and other interests. In addition to peer mentorship training, the e-board provides programs for all students, focusing on resources to help students thrive as HC Scholars.

Affinity Group Leaders provide opportunities for all students to engage in collective support and exploration of cultures and identities, regardless of their own. The Affinity Groups, which include Asian, Black, International, Latinx, LGBTQ+, and Middle Eastern, are open to all Honors College students (and their guests) and hold a strong connection to the Asian, Black, Latinx, LGBTQ+, Middle Eastern, and International Student (Rutgers Global) cultural centers on campus.

CONNECT WITH THE HC STAFF



Tips For Success

FROM OUR HONORS MENTORS

BE ORGANIZED AND STRATEGIC

- ◇ Take one step at a time—you don't need to have everything figured out in your first month.
- ◇ Check your Rutgers email daily.
- ◇ Use your network of support—meet with Honors College Deans and Faculty Fellows, schedule time with an Academic Advisor, and visit your Honors Community Mentor during their meetup hours.
- ◇ Get a planner or color code your Google calendar to stay on track.
- ◇ Keep a to-do list and tackle one thing at a time.
- ◇ Use your time between classes to run errands, check emails, and do small assignments.
- ◇ Approach your education as an opportunity to challenge yourself intellectually.

BE INFORMED AND INTELLIGENT

- ◇ Talk to your professors, ask questions, and go to office hours—good connections can lead to opportunities like research and special programs.
- ◇ Meet with a School-based Honors College Advisor regularly—**honorscollege.rutgers.edu/academics/academic-affairs-advising**
- ◇ Avoid skipping classes—playing catch-up is stressful.
- ◇ Find like-minded students to study with and to hold you accountable.
- ◇ Take frequent study breaks and you'll be more productive.
- ◇ Break large projects into smaller parts and create a timeline.
- ◇ Find quiet “secret” study places across campus:

- *HC East & North Lounges, 1st floor—5 Seminary Place*
- *HC Dougherty Lounge, 2nd floor, South Wing—5 Seminary Place*
- *Academic Building, 4th floor lounge—College Avenue Campus*
- *Zimmerli Art Museum—College Avenue Campus*
- *Library of Science & Medicine—Busch Campus*
- *Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy atrium—Busch Campus*
- *Rutgers Business School, 2nd & 5th floor lounges—Livingston Campus*
- *Livingston Student Center sky bridge*
- *New Jersey Institute for Food, Nutrition & Health—Cook Campus*

MAKE WELLNESS A PRIORITY

- ◇ Get your rest, don't skip meals, move around, have fun.
- ◇ Strive for balance between work and relaxation.
- ◇ Manage your time carefully.
- ◇ Visit the Student Health website—health.rutgers.edu—for a range of medical and counseling services, including CAPS for 1:1 counseling.
- ◇ Be safe. Travel with a friend, make good decisions. Call the Rutgers Knight Mover if you're feeling uneasy about how to get home.
- ◇ If you're worried about a friend, share a confidential concern at dosomething.rutgers.edu, and someone will check on them.
- ◇ If you or someone is in immediate danger, call 911.

FIND YOUR COMMUNITY

- ◇ Attend the Intercultural Meetup to find peers with shared identities, interests, and experiences, inclusive of all identities and allies. Also visit the Rutgers Cultural Center Collaborative to learn about communities across campus.
- ◇ Go to the HC and Rutgers-wide Involvement Fairs to learn about organizations and opportunities.
- ◇ Attend a club meeting or volunteer for a service project.
- ◇ Participate in HC Serves and other HC events and traditions, and start your HC service hours requirement right away, logging hours as you go.
- ◇ Meet with your Honors Mentor to get connected to the community, especially for commuter and transfer students.

IF LIVING OFF-CAMPUS

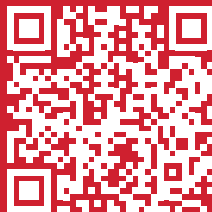
- ◇ Be sure to follow your parking permit's assigned parking locations at designated times to avoid getting a ticket.
- ◇ Check for traffic alerts and road closures before you leave home. Keep in mind that inclement weather can make your commute longer.
- ◇ Always leave extra time between parking your car or arriving by train, taking the bus, and walking to your class.
- ◇ Pack your backpack based on how long you will be on campus—refillable water bottle, food, money, toiletries, chargers, etc.
- ◇ Find your go-to spot for between classes—the HC North Lounge, designed for commuters; commuter lounges across campus; a library or student center; a local cafe.
- ◇ See more tips and resources—commuter.rutgers.edu

IN ADDITION TO RUTGERS DINING...

- ◇ Try various restaurants on College and Easton Avenues, including great places to get coffee.
- ◇ Meal swipe at Kilmer's Market (Livingston), Cafe West (College Avenue), and Harvest IFNH (Cook).

Don't miss the sidebar menu for everything you need to know, including the bus schedule, campus maps, athletics, and more.

GET THE RUTGERS APP



Graduating AS AN HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

As an Honors College student, you must complete all core requirements for the Honors College, for your academic school of enrollment, and for your chosen majors(s)/minor(s).

Students who complete all Honors College requirements will have the designation “Honors College Scholar” on their diplomas and will receive the Honors Scholar stole. Students who complete the Capstone as well will have the designation “Honors College Scholar with Distinction” and receive the medal.

For more information about school- and major-specific requirements, please refer to the individual school and departmental websites.

HONORS CURRICULUM

- ♦ **Two Tracks:**
 - Honors College Scholar with Distinction (with Capstone)
 - Honors College Scholar (no Capstone)
- ♦ **Honors Mission-based Course (1 required, 1-4 credits)**
- ♦ **Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar (1 required, 3 credits)**
- ♦ **Global Competency Course (1 required, 3+ credits)**
- ♦ **General Honors Courses (3 required, 9+ credits) and SEBS Tutorials and +Honors Contract Courses**
- ♦ **Byrne Seminars in first year (optional, 1 credit, P/NP)**
- ♦ **Service Learning: submit a minimum of 30 hours of approved service in your first three years.**
- ♦ **Between 16-19 and 22-25 credits; to count as Honors, course grades must be a B or better**

Visit honorscollege.rutgers.edu/academics/curriculum for details.

If you have any questions about your standing overall, school-specific Honors College requirements, the Capstone project, or other academic matters, please email an academic advisor or Dean Bowers.



Enriched **ACADEMICS**

- ♦ **Honors Unbound**, a two-year themed collective exploration, extended into the Honors College Common Read
- ♦ **IMPACT!** Program leadership training, professional development programs, master classes, and networking
- ♦ **LGBTQ+ Learning Collaborative** as well as workshops and curricular programs, such as writing workshops and the Genocide & Human Rights Workshop
- ♦ **Public Scholarship Program**, endowed lecture series, and departmental presentations

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Rutgers AT LARGE

◇ RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS ◇

success.rutgers.edu

From getting involved, health and wellness, and financial aid to finding research, internships, and study abroad opportunities

◇ DEAN OF STUDENTS ◇

deanofstudents.rutgers.edu

◇ RUTGERS LIBRARIES ◇

libraries.rutgers.edu/new-brunswick

◇ INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES ◇

global.rutgers.edu/international-scholars-students

◇ LEARNING CENTERS ◇

rlc.rutgers.edu

◇ WRITING CENTER ◇

wp.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/tutoring

◇ CAREER EXPLORATION AND SUCCESS ◇

careers.rutgers.edu

◇ STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE ◇

scarlethub.rutgers.edu/financial-services/student-employment/students/

◇ ONE STOP ◇

scarlethub.rutgers.edu

For Financial Aid, Student Accounts, and Registration

◇ STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES ◇

rusls.rutgers.edu

◇ THE ARC ◇

success.rutgers.edu/the-arc

Discover opportunities, track your involvement, connect experiences to competencies, earn points and achievements that reflect your growth, and build a strong record of your experiences

◇ CULTURAL COLLABORATIVE ◇

culturalcollaborative.rutgers.edu

*Includes the Asian American Cultural Center, Center for Latino Arts & Culture,
Paul Robeson Cultural Center, and Center for Social Justice Education
& LGBT Communities*

◇ COMMUTER RESOURCES ◇

commuter.rutgers.edu

◇ HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES ◇

STUDENT HEALTH OFFICE

health.rutgers.edu

For Medical and Counseling Services

DINING SERVICES

food.rutgers.edu

RECREATION

recreation.rutgers.edu

STUDENT BASIC NEEDS

basicneeds.rutgers.edu

SPIRITUAL LIFE

ruoffcampus.rutgers.edu/basic-needs/mental-physical-and-spiritual-wellness/faith-and-spirituality-at-rutgers

OFFICE FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION & VICTIM ASSISTANCE

vpva.rutgers.edu

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

ods.rutgers.edu

THE COLLEGE SUPPORT PROGRAM

rcaas.rutgers.edu/CSP

Do Something to Help—Share a Concern!

dosomething.rutgers.edu

Rutgers is a community that cares.

*We DO SOMETHING when we are concerned about one of our
community members.*

The Knight Mover

732-932-RIDE (7433) | ipo.rutgers.edu/dots/buses-nb

For transportation by request between 3:00-6:00am, Monday-Thursday,
when normal campus bus service is not running.

DISCOVER CAMPUS RESOURCES





Wellness & Counseling AT THE HC

We are fortunate to have Shan Reeves, a counselor from Rutgers CAPS (Counseling, ADAP, and Psychiatric Services), embedded within the Honors College community to help you address challenges and emotions that you may be feeling throughout the year.

Look for these opportunities in the weekly Monday newsletter and on the Honors College Wellness & Counseling webpage—honorscollege.rutgers.edu/wellness-counseling or scan the QR code below.

Let's Talk—weekly counseling sessions are private, free, and confidential.

To schedule an appointment call 848-932-7884.
Drop-ins are first come, first served.

Wellness Workshops—weekly themed workshops that address methods for relaxation and mindfulness.

FOR MORE INFORMATION





Mental Health & **OTHER MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

DIAL 911

or call the Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) at
848-932-7211.

988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

CALL OR TEXT TO 988

FOR ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY SUPPORT

SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE

or visit health.rutgers.edu/general-resources/emergency-information
for the most current information



Important DATES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
HC Welcome Week, including such signature events as:

Honors College Welcome & Induction Ceremony
Class of 2030 Photo
HC Common Read Author & Community Conversations
Welcome Barbeque
HC and Douglass Welcome Event
Intercultural Meetup
HC Involvement Fair
Resource Roundtable

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
First day of classes

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Internship & Research Mixer

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
Rutgers Homecoming & Family Weekend

JANUARY 2027
Housing application process begins for Fall 2027
Stay tuned for continuing student housing information in November!

MAY 2027
HC Summer Sendoff

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Visit our offices in the HC east wing or email us at honorscollege@rutgers.edu.



@RUHonorsCollNB



@RUHonorsCollNB

Current as of August 1, 2026