Christian M. M. Brady, D. Phil. (Oxon.) is the T.W. Lewis Dean of the Lewis Honors College.

The Lewis Honors College at the University of Kentucky is integral to the University’s commitment to excellence in undergraduate education. Through its special curriculum and related academic activities, the College provides a challenging course of instruction for outstanding, highly motivated students.

The mission of the Lewis Honors College is to better the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the world by helping students to explore their purpose, develop intellectually, and lead with integrity.

Selection of Honors Students

The Lewis Honors College seeks students with intellectual curiosity, demonstrated academic achievements, and leadership potential. Admission to Honors is competitive; students may apply as high school seniors or as current UK students. For those applying as incoming first-year students, they must complete the application through the University’s Office of Undergraduate Admission. The Admissions Committee considers all aspects of an applicant’s record, including the student’s GPA, the academic rigor of high school courses, the quality of the essays, and extracurricular activities.

Entering students ideally have an outstanding high school grade-point average, having taken a challenging curriculum. While standardized test scores are a small part of the evaluation, the average ACT of the most recent admitted class is 31 (1400 on the SAT). The Admissions Committee places great weight on the strength of the application essays, as well as the evidence they provide of motivation to accept the challenges of Honors and contribute to the program.

Students whose academic performance may vary (high GPA and lower test scores, for example) or who have talents and motivation that are not reflected in standardized testing procedures are invited to make their best case for admission to the Lewis Honors College and to solicit recommendations from supportive teachers or supervisors.

Upper-division students at UK or transfer students with one semester or more of academic study at a college or university may apply to the Lewis Honors College. They submit a copy of their college transcripts, an essay, and a writing sample. Applicants are encouraged to submit a writing sample that is discipline-specific. All transfer applicants must demonstrate strong academic performance at the college level (3.4 GPA or better).

The Honors Curriculum

An Honors education at UK opens up an exciting world of inquiry, including research, education abroad, and service that will challenge students intellectually, provide access to the most creative minds at UK, and prepare participants for advanced study and to make a difference in the world upon graduation. The Honors curricu-
lum requires a total of 30 credit hours in Honors course work. This includes the required 3-credit Foundations course, participation in at least six credit hours of Honors Experiences (typically research, education abroad, internship/co-op, or service learning), a Senior Thesis (3 credits), and the student’s choice of Honors course work campus-wide to fulfill the educational goals of the Honors student.

Honors students also have access to living in the Honors Quad (the Honors Living Learning Community), career and personal development counselors and programs, enhanced academic advising, and co-curricular opportunities.

**Program Requirements**

UK students starting Honors as first-year students complete 30 hours in Honors courses, experiences, and the Senior Thesis.

**Six Credits of Required Courses**
- CIS/WRD 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II .............................................. 3
- HON 101 The Individual and Society .................................................. 3

**Twelve Credits of Honors Courses**
Students choose at least two lower-level Honors courses:
- HON 151 Honors in Humanities (Subtitle required) ... 3 fulfills the Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities
- HON 152 Honors in Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences (Subtitle required) .............. 3 fulfills the Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural/Physical/Mathematical Sciences
- HON 251 Honors in Social Sciences (Subtitle required) .......................................................... 3 fulfills the Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences
- HON 252 Honors in Arts and Creativity (Subtitle required) ...................................................... 3 fulfills the Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity
- or Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses

Students choose at least two upper-level Honors courses:
- HON 301 Proseminar .................................................... 3
- Honors courses/sections in existing UK courses
- or a graduate course that meets the needs and interests of the student*

**Three Credits of Directed Elective**
- HON 301 Proseminar .................................................... 3
- or departmental Honors course outside student’s major*
*Program pre-approval required.

**Six Credits of Honors Experiences**
Students choose two or more experiences (may opt to do the same experience multiple times for a total of 6 credit hours):
- Education Abroad, HON 352 or equivalent
- Service Learning or Community Outreach, HON 399 or equivalent
- HON 395 Independent Work or equivalent .................................................. 3
  HON 395 is an Undergraduate Research Experience. It is suggested that 3 credits of undergraduate research be devoted to preparation for the Senior Honors Thesis course.

**Senior Honors Thesis**
- HON 398 Senior Honors Capstone or college/departamental equivalent .......................... 3

Abbreviated program requirements are available for students transferring into the Lewis Honors College as a sophomore (21 credits) or as a junior (15 credits).

Honors students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Probationary status will be applied to Honors students falling below this threshold. Students who have not removed themselves from probationary status after two consecutive semesters with a cumulative GPA below 3.0 will be dismissed from the College.

**SUGGESTED FOUR YEAR PLAN**

**First Year**

CIS/WRD 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II .............................................. 3

HON 101 The Individual and Society .................................................. 3

One lower-level honors course .............................................. 3

Total .................................................................................. 9

**Second Year**

One lower-level honors course .............................................. 3

One honors experience .................................................. 3

Total .................................................................................. 6

**Third Year**

Two upper-level honors courses .............................................. 6

Directed elective .................................................. 3

Total .................................................................................. 9

**Fourth Year**

One honors experience (focused on thesis topic) .............................................. 3

HON 398 Senior Honors Capstone .............................................. 3

Total .................................................................................. 6

**TOTAL HOURS:** .................................................. 30

**Graduating with Honors**

To graduate with Honors from the Lewis Honors College and have this designation on the final UK transcript and diploma, students must complete the requirements described above.

**Special Opportunities**

Students in the Lewis Honors College have many opportunities, both in and out of the classroom, to develop and demonstrate academic excellence. The small class size and method of instruction in Honors courses foster active learning. Informal conferences, special speakers, trips, and workshops allow students to explore topics and issues not regularly considered within University departmental offerings.

Students in the program may elect to live in Lewis Hall, a study and community oriented, co-ed Honors residence hall equipped with seminar rooms, active learning centers, and the Lewis Honors College advising offices.

Other social, service, and cultural activities organized by and for Honors students include the Lewis Honors College Student Advisory Council or HPSC (social and service activities), and a highly active peer mentoring program. Students may also participate in the Journal Project, for which they keep a journal during their undergraduate career, sharing the journal with a staff member, administrator, or faculty member who volunteers as an advisor.

Honors students in good standing are eligible for a number of special grants and scholarships during and at the conclusion of their undergraduate career. These include scholarships based on financial need, grants to support independent research conducted in the U.S. or abroad, scholarships to support study-travel for members of the Journal Project, the Diachun Award for students continuing studies in graduate school, and several other literary, service, and book awards.

**Benefits**

The greatest benefits Lewis Honors College students enjoy are intensified intellectual development and a heightened personal awareness of the individual’s place in his or her culture. A high percentage of graduates of the Lewis Honors College enter graduate or professional schools, and move on to successful careers.

**How to Apply**

For more information, contact:

**Director, Lewis Honors College**

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www.uky.edu/academy/honors/

The application deadline is **December 1**. Contact the Lewis Honors College for more information.