

IDH1700 (21255): Scholars Introduction to Professional Development

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This course for first-year Honors Scholars is designed to introduce program expectations and to provide a forum from which to explore the resources available at UF. Content emphasizes the skills and strategies necessary for a successful academic, professional, and personal life. You will begin to understand the organization of the university and learn from the experiences of other highly motivated students. Consistent feedback and regular participation by all is essential to the success of this course – we have a lot to learn from one another!

Objectives

- To become familiar with opportunities for involvement at UF, including but not limited to research, internships, leadership, and scholarship or grant funding.
- To develop professional skills such as creating and updating a resume, highlighting your strengths, and public speaking.
- To learn practical skills for academic success such as personal reflection, developing a research proposal, and building relationships with faculty and staff at UF.
- To become acquainted with resources available to you on campus and in the Gainesville community.
- To understand the academic purpose and expectations of the Honors Scholars Program.

Readings

- Occasional articles assigned relevant to class discussion. Posted in Canvas.
- Honors on Wednesday

General Expectations

- Attend all class sessions and contribute to discussions.
- Complete all assignments on time – submissions are always due by 5pm Sundays.
- Be respectful and attentive, especially during guest speakers and panels.
- Do not expect to *be given* an A in this class, expect to *earn* it.

Accommodations

Students who would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#) and share their access needs with Regan early in the semester.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the course by completing evaluations online and will be notified when the evaluation period opens.

Grading:

Attendance & Participation	15
Events	25
StrengthsQuest	10
Résumé	10
Faculty Profile	10
Research Proposal	10
Research Presentation	10
<u>Undergraduate Game Plan</u>	<u>10</u>
	100

A = 90+ B = 80-90 C = 70-80

1. Attendance and Participation (15 points)

Because this class only meets once a week, attendance is especially important. Each meeting counts as one point, and to earn the point you are expected not only to show up but to be prepared to contribute. This course is designed to build your community of scholars. Successful communities are built on a strong foundation of mutual respect and common courtesy for each member of the class, and for any guest speakers or panelists.

Excused absences include:

- Required student participation in a University-sponsored event
- Religious holidays: Religious holidays are always excused; please notify me in writing within the first two weeks of class so that appropriate accommodations may be made.
- Medical emergencies: Medical emergencies are excused with appropriate documentation
- Family Emergencies: Contact me in advance if possible

2. Event Points (5 points each, 25 total)

Attend at least one event or meeting in each category below and draft a short (2 paragraphs) reflection about the experience. Submit three reflections in Canvas on or before **Sunday October 10 at 5pm** and the final two on or before **Sunday November 21 at 5pm**. Make use of the guidelines below when drafting your reflections – they may be written as a narrative or answering the questions as bullet points.

Reflection statement guidelines:

- How did you hear about this event?
- What, if anything, did you learn? Who did you meet?
- If you were the organizer, what would you do to improve the event before hosting it again?
- Would you recommend this to a friend? Why or why not?

- **Arts:**
 - [Harn Museum](#)
 - [University Galleries](#)
 - [College of the Arts](#) Schools: Music, Theater, Dance, Art & Art History
- **Community:**
 - [Gainesville / Alachua County](#)
 - [Bo Diddley Plaza](#)
 - [Depot Park](#)
 - [FEST](#)
- **Global:**
 - [International Scholars Program](#) event, workshop, or info session
 - [Center for African Studies](#)
 - [Center for Latin American Studies](#)
 - [Davis UWC Scholar](#) meetup
- **Professional:**
 - [Career Showcase](#)
 - Professional Organization meeting or event @ UF
 - [Student Honors Program](#) professional development event
 - [Bob Graham Center for Public Service event](#) or info session
- **Social:**
 - [Student Honors Program](#) social event
 - Social Organization meeting or event @ UF
 - [Rec Sports](#) participation
 - [Student Activities and Involvement](#)

3. Resume (10 points)

You will create a 1-pg résumé that you could use to apply for research positions, leadership opportunities, internships, scholarships, and so on. Bring a draft to class on **August 31**. Based on information provided in class and Peer Leader feedback or one-on-one meeting with Regan, you will revise your résumé and **upload to Canvas no later than 5pm Sunday, September 5**.

4. StrengthsQuest (10 points)

You are required to complete the on-line assessment (approx. 30 minute exercise) and upload your Top 5 Strengths here as a PDF no later than **5pm Sunday, September 12**. We will map your cohort's strengths map during class **September 28**.

5. 3 Minute Thesis (30 points total)

This assignment is based on [3MT](#), a research communication competition that challenges graduate students to make a compelling presentation on their dissertation topic and its significance in just three minutes. The competition helps students develop the capacity to explain their research to a non-specialist audience. We will discuss research throughout the semester, and you will hear from other Honors Scholars participating in undergraduate research. You will develop a proposal for research to be conducted during your time at UF – this may be something you are already working on or a “dream project” to undertake later.

You are required to meet with a faculty as part of your proposal development. Upload a faculty profile (in your own words) and notes on your meeting to Canvas **by 5pm Sunday, October 17.** The profile should be approximately 250 words in length. [10 points]

Submit the research proposal and slide on or before **5pm Sunday, October 31.** The proposal and faculty profile will be no longer than one page each. [10 points]

You will present your research proposal to class **November 2, 9, or 16.** [10 points]

Your presentation will be evaluated based on these criteria:

- Comprehension: Was the content presented in a clear way? Was the research question identified and the strategy outlined?
- Communication: Was the language appropriate for a non-specialist audience? Did the slide enhance the presentation?
- Timing: The presentation should fall between 2:45 and 3:15 in length.

6. Undergraduate Game Plan (10 points)

Format and process discussed in class on October 26. Upload statement to Canvas by **11:59pm Sunday, December 5**

Date	Topic	Reading/Prep	Reminders
08/24	Review Syllabus & Expectations	"What's the Point of An Honors College, Anyway?"	
08/31	Resume Workshop	"The Effortless Perfection Myth"	*Be prepared with a printed draft resume to review in class.
09/07	Research at UF <i>Dr. Anne Donnelly Director, Center for Undergraduate Research</i> Research Panel		*Submit final resume no later than Sunday, September 5.
09/14	Mentorship* in the Scholars Community <i>*and how to be a strong mentee</i> 3MT Check in		*Submit Strengths report no later than Sunday, September 12.
09/21	Career Showcase Discussion & Prep Internship Panel		
09/23	<i>Honors Scholars Welcome Reception</i>	<i>Prepare a brief personal intro for the reception</i>	<i>Keene Faculty Center, 5 – 7pm</i>
09/27-09/30	<i>Fall Career Showcase</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27-28: Non-Tech • 29-30: Technical 		<i>Optional – Professional Event Option</i>
09/28	StrengthsQuest Mapping <i>Kim Pace, UF Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs</i>	Bring your strengths report to class.	
10/05	Leadership & Involvement Panel	"Not Leadership Material? Good. The World Needs Followers."	
10/12	Developing Relationships with Faculty Prep for Registration		*Submit at least three event reflections no later than Sunday, October 10.

10/17	Scholars Activity Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional 11am – 3pm		Join Davis UWC, Lombardi, and Stamps Scholars for a day of fun and fellowship at the Lake Wauburg North Shore!
10/19	Leadership & Ethics Dr. Brian Ray Director, Poe Center		*Submit faculty profile no later than Sunday, October 17.
10/26	Fellowships Discussion Making a Game Plan	“Our Superficial Scholars”	* Identify a fellowship relevant to your long-term goals and interests.
11/02	3MT Group I		
11/09	3MT Group II		
11/16	3MT Group III		
11/23	Class Canceled – work on your Game Plan		*Submit your final two event reflections no later than Sunday, November 21.
11/30	Honors Scholar Program Expectations	“Only Connect...”	
12/07	Wrap Up (with snacks!)		*Submit your Undergraduate Game Plan no later than Sunday, December 5.