

The Honors  
Bachelor of  
Arts Program

# XAVIER

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FACT SHEET

## What is the Honors AB?

Established in 1948, the Honors AB program is the oldest honors program at Xavier University. It is based on the 16th-century Jesuit *Ratio Studiorum*, which emphasized the study of the literature, philosophy, theology, history and classical languages of Western Civilization. Designed for excellent students with a broad range of interests, the Honors AB program represents the only interdisciplinary degree program offered by the University.

## The Honors AB Curriculum

The Honors AB curriculum offers a broad education, but one that is also deep and rigorous. The distinctive feature of this curriculum is its strong emphasis on the study of Greek, Latin and philosophy. In addition, the Honors AB program requires courses in theology, English, history, politics, economics, art, mathematics and the sciences. These courses, including seminars and tutorials, are offered in special honors sections.

Another interesting feature of the program is that it is designed to make it possible for students to pursue almost any major field of study offered at Xavier University along with the program, should students wish to deepen their studies in a particular discipline.

## Career Opportunities

Honors AB students find themselves prepared for a wide variety of careers, both academic and professional. Over 70 of our graduates hold doctorates in a variety of academic subjects. Fifty hold medical degrees and are practicing medicine throughout the country. Almost as many are lawyers and judges, and many more are involved in careers in business. In short, the Honors AB program is not just job training, it is education for a career.

## Who is the Honors AB Student?

A student who desires a broad and rigorous curriculum of studies chooses the Honors AB program at Xavier. Honors AB students come to Xavier with excellent high school credentials. In addition, they have generally studied a classical language during high school. However, no background in classical languages is required for participation in the program; special introductory courses are available. The main point, though, is this: the Honors AB student desires a thorough education, is interested in a wide variety of subjects and is highly motivated.

## Admission to the Program

Students interested in the Honors AB Program or wishing to apply should contact Edmund P. Cueva, Director, Honors AB Program, Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-5181. He may also be reached by phone at 513 745-1931 or 800 344-GOXU, or by e-mail: [cueva@xavier.edu](mailto:cueva@xavier.edu).

Honors AB students are eligible for all scholarship awards available from Xavier University. In addition, the Honors AB program is able to offer some supplementary scholarship assistance to qualified students. If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of the program, please contact Edmund Cueva.

## For further information, contact:

**Office of Admission**  
3800 Victory Parkway  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-5311  
513 745-3301 or 877 XUADMIT (982-3648)  
E-mail: [xuadmit@xavier.edu](mailto:xuadmit@xavier.edu)  
<http://www.xavier.edu>



3800 Victory Parkway  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207

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**The Faculty**

The Honors AB program boasts the best of Xavier’s faculty. Although engaged in research and officers in an array of professional organizations, our faculty is first and foremost a teaching faculty. With small classes, Honors AB students have the opportunity to work closely with their teachers and to fully benefit from their expertise.

Following is a selected list of faculty involved with the Honors AB Program:

Gillian T.W. Ahlgren, BA, MA, Ph.D. (University of Chicago) Professor of theology	Sarah Melcher, BS, MDiv, Ph.D. (Emory University) Assistant professor of theology
Frederick Benda, S.J., BA, MA, MDiv, Ph.D. (University of Texas) Visiting faculty in classics	Timothy S. Quinn, BA, MA, Ph.D. (Catholic University) Professor of philosophy
Shannon Byrne, BA, MA, Ph.D. (Northwestern University) Assistant professor of classics	Robert A. Rethy, BA, MA, Ph.D. (Pennsylvania State University) Professor of philosophy
Edmund Cueva, BA, MA, MA, Ph.D. (Loyola University) Associate professor of classics, director for Honors AB	Michael John Sweeney, BA, MA, MA, STB, Ph.D. (Catholic University) Associate professor of philosophy
Arthur J. Dewey, BA, MDiv, Ph.D. (Harvard University) Professor of theology	Cyril W. Whitaker, S.J., BA, M.Ed., MA (Loyola University) Professor of classics and philosophy
John J. LaRocca, S.J., BA, MA, MDiv, Ph.D. (Rutgers University) Professor of history	

**Recommended Sequence of Courses**

	<b>BA (Honors Program)</b>		
<i>First semester</i>	<i>Sem. hrs.</i>	<i>Second semester</i>	<i>Sem. hrs.</i>
<b>Freshman year</b>			
Rhetoric .....	3	Literature & the Moral Imagination .....	3
Elementary Greek I or .....		Elementary Greek II or Greek Elective .....	3
Introduction to Greek Literature* .....	3	History Elective .....	3
History Elective .....	3	Vergil: Aeneid VII-XII .....	3
Cicero .....	3	Math elective .....	3
Math elective .....	3		
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>15</i>	<i>Total</i> .....	<i>15</i>
<b>Sophomore year</b>			
Science elective.....	3/4	Science elective.....	3/4
Introduction to Greek Literature or .....		Sophocles .....	3
Greek elective .....	3	Tacitus: Annals .....	3
Horace: Odes.....	3	Theology elective.....	3
Ethics as Introduction to Philosophy.....	3	Elective .....	3
Introduction to Theology .....	3	E Pluribus Unum** .....	1
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>15/16</i>	<i>Total</i> .....	<i>16/17</i>
<b>Junior year</b>			
Science elective.....	3	Plato: Republic.....	3
Thucydides.....	3	Social Science elective.....	3
Social Science elective.....	3	Lucretius .....	3
Latin Prose Style.....	3	Philosophy elective .....	3
Theory of Knowledge .....	3	Theology elective.....	3
Elective .....	3	Elective .....	3
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>18</i>	<i>Total</i> .....	<i>18</i>
<b>Senior year</b>			
Homer: Iliad.....	3	Capstone Course+.....	3
Roman Satire.....	3	Philosophy elective .....	6
Philosophy elective .....	3	Electives.....	9
Electives.....	9		
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>18</i>	<i>Total</i> .....	<i>18</i>

\*Students having two units of high school Greek or its equivalent will register for Introduction to Greek Literature in the first semester and a Greek elective in the two following semesters. Others will take Elementary Greek I, Elementary Greek II and Introduction to Greek Literature in sequence.

\*\*This course may be taken first or second semester of the sophomore year.

+This course involves independent research, and requires students to integrate their classical learning with wider areas of interest.

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION  
THE HONORS BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM  
XAVIER UNIVERSITY**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

High school \_\_\_\_\_ Class rank \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

GPA \_\_\_\_\_ SAT scores: V \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

ACT scores: EN \_\_\_\_\_ MT \_\_\_\_\_ RD \_\_\_\_\_ SR \_\_\_\_\_

Composite \_\_\_\_\_

Have you studied any classics? If so, what have you taken and how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of academic interest \_\_\_\_\_

Non-academic interests and activities \_\_\_\_\_

Please include with this application form a brief essay (approximately 750 words) on one of the following themes:

1. “What book (or books) have been especially meaningful for your intellectual and spiritual growth?”
2. “If you could invite four persons (contemporary or historical) for an evening of conversation, who would they be, and why would you invite them?”

Please detach application and return to:

Edmund P. Cueva  
Honors AB Program  
Xavier University  
3800 Victory Parkway  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-5181

Priority deadline: March 15