

# The Honors Program Newsletter

VOL. 16, ISSUE 2

FORMERLY HONORABLE INTENTIONS

OCTOBER

## CALENDAR

Note: The Leon Litwack discussion, scheduled for Nov. 4, has been canceled.

### October

**14 – Nikki Giovanni**  
*“Racism 101”*  
*Old Main Chapel, 8 p.m.*  
Nikki Giovanni published her first book of poetry in 1968. Since then she has written nearly 20 books of poetry and essays. Her work speaks about the individual and life situations with wit, humor, and sensitivity. Her newest book, *Racism 101*, contains personal and controversial essays from her life perspectives.

**16 – Freshman Orientation Session**  
*“Undergraduate Research Opportunities”*  
*CUB 219-221, 5 p.m.*  
Dinner provided.

**21 – Honors Scheduling, DHC**  
**051, 5-8:30 p.m.**

**November**  
**2 – Symposium**  
*“Prospects and Challenges of Contemporary Africa”*  
*Orndoff Theatre (CUB), 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.*  
Five scholars will examine the complex challenges facing modern Africa, encapsulated in a global context. Includes the Ethiopian film *Deluge* at 3:30 p.m.

**8 – Trip to New York**  
*Leaves at 7 a.m.*  
See article for details.

**20 – Freshman Orientation Session**  
*“Academic Minors”*  
*CUB 219-221, 5 p.m.*

## See and ‘Rent’ New York

Dr. Michael Campbell will lead a trip to New York on Nov. 8. Students who registered by Sept. 12 will see the Broadway musical *Rent* and enjoy a day of free exploration in the city.

The bus for the trip will leave Shippensburg at 7 a.m., and arrive at New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art at 11. Dr. Campbell said at the Aug. 27 Honors meeting.

Students will then have over

eight hours of free time, after which they will meet at the theater by 7:30 p.m. Campbell will provide students with a map to the theater.

The bus will return directly from the theater, getting back on campus around 3 a.m. on November 9.

Other than the already-paid ticket price, the only additional cost to students is cash for meals and souvenirs.

## Kutztown to host China trip

Two Shippensburg Honors students will have the opportunity to travel to China with the SSHE Summer Honors Program in 2003.

Kutztown University is hosting this summer’s program. Participants will spend two weeks at Kutztown, learning about Chinese politics and economic issues. Students will then embark on a two-week stay in Beijing, visiting the Great Wall, the Palace Museum, and many other historic sites.

Each student will receive a scholarship covering travel, tuition, room and board, and required field trips. In China, a

minimum of two meals per day is provided. Students are expected to pay for textbooks, transportation to Kutztown and home from the airport, passports, immunizations, visas, and any insurance beyond the tour company’s group plan.

An eligible Honors student should have completed 30 credits at Shippensburg and be returning next year. An information session will be held later in the semester for students interested in applying. More details will be in the November newsletter.

Slippery Rock will host the 2004 program, to Costa Rica.

## Will thrills Honors students

Nationally syndicated columnist and author George Will spoke with Honors students at Shippensburg University on September 6.

Will, on campus to deliver the keynote address of the university’s \$40-million capital campaign, met with dozens of Ship students, including many from the Honors Program, in a private question-and-answer session in Old Main.

Students were able to question Will on such matters as the situation with Iraq, the 2004 election, and education.

“I thought he spoke very well,” Honors President Ryan Hess said, “although I didn’t agree with several ideas he had.”

“But overall, the event was a unique opportunity...to interact with a very intelligent and well-known speaker. It was certainly a fun and



## Lounge to re-open with celebration

The student-run Honors Lounge Redecoration Committee plans a “grand re-opening” on Oct. 10 to celebrate the newly refurbished Honors Lounge in McCune Hall.

The students cleaned, added chair slip-covers and pillows, replaced curtains, and repaired a computer, among other things, over Sept. 26-28.

Honors Vice President Meg Dameron said, “We wanted the Honors Lounge to be cheery and homelike, somewhere that students would want to go to study or hang out. Previously the lounge was not used much because it was very dark and dreary.”

“This is important to all Honors students because the Honors Lounge is a space that is uniquely ours,” Dameron said. “It’s [our] hope...that the newly decorated space be used and enjoyed by everyone.”

### Honors Office

Horton Hall 104  
(477-1604)

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

IT’S SCHEDULING TIME!!!! (see inside)

# IT'S SCHEDULING TIME!!!!

Welcome to the scheduling newsletter for the Spring 2003! Inside you will find information on Honors courses for next semester. Also, here are some important points to remember:

- \* The scheduling meeting for Honors students will be held on **Monday, October 21 from 5-8:30 p.m. in DHC 051. YOU MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR HONORS CLASSES!**
- \* You need to attend only during your scheduling period:
  - Seniors* 5:00-5:30
  - Juniors* 5:30-6:00
  - Sophomores* 6:00-7:00
  - Freshmen* 7:00-8:30
- \* If you do not currently have an Honors course and are not planning to schedule one, your priority scheduling privilege will be revoked unless you have already earned 24 Honors credits.
- \* Be certain that there are no holds on your record (any unpaid bills related to the University, library or parking fines, incomplete Heath Center forms, etc.). You **WILL NOT** be permitted to schedule if you have **ANY** holds.
- \* If you need to make a change to your Honors courses, the change **MUST** be made through Sharon Poe, the Honors secretary (ext. 1604 or sapoe@ship.edu).
- \* Freshmen **MUST** meet with Dr. Klein before you will be able to schedule Honors courses. If you have not yet, please contact Sharon Poe for an appointment.

## **\*ALSO KEEP IN MIND\***

### **PASS/FAIL OPTION:**

- \* Students in the Honors Program are expected to maintain a "B" average in their Honors courses; therefore, pass/fail is **NOT** an option for Honors courses.

### **REQUIREMENT REMINDER:**

- \* To remain in and graduate from the Honors Program, you must maintain at least a 3.25 QPA in both your Honors and non-Honors courses.

### **\*General Scheduling Notice\***

- \* All students **MUST** meet with their advisor before they will be permitted to schedule. The advisor/department office must release the advising hold before the computer will allow you to proceed.
- \* Read the packet carefully. If a course is closed or restricted, you will not be able to schedule the course without going to the department offering the course during your appointment time.\* Your opportunity to schedule lasts from the date and time of your appointment to that time the following day. You are responsible for scheduling your non-honors courses at that time.

## PAIRED COURSES

### **HON 100: Basic Oral Communication** **T, Th 2:00-3:15**

**Dr. James St. Clair**

Assists the student in developing effectiveness in the speaking-listening situation. Emphasis is placed on a conversational style of speaking suitable for communicating with an individual or group. Acceptable diction and knowledge of the communication process are also stressed in this course.

### **HON 123: Honors World History II** **T, R 9:30-10:45**

**Dr. Jonathan Skaff**

This course is an introduction to the world's history from approximately the year 1500 to the present. The course's main theme is the rise to world dominance of the West (Europe and the U.S.) over the past 500 years and its impact on the rest of the world. This is an enormous topic that cannot possibly be covered comprehensively in one semester. Consequently, our goal will be to identify major developments by studying important and illuminating case studies from history. The case studies will be drawn from Europe, Africa, the Middle East, South Asia (India and Pakistan), East Asia (China and Japan), and Latin America. Comparisons of these regions will play an important role in understanding the major patterns in history. This course will also serve as an introduction to historical methodology because, like a historian, students will be expected to analyze and interpret some source materials (textbook, document reader, and lectures).

The class also will concentrate on developing study skills that will help you to succeed in college and the real world. You will have the opportunity to improve your critical thinking, writing, and public speaking. Most classes will include time for discussion, so it is imperative that students attend class regularly and do assigned reading. There will be two short writing assignments during the semester that are meant to develop analytic and descriptive writing skills.

## REQUIRED SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

**HON 110: Honors English**  
**T, Th 2:00-3:15**

**Dr. Sharon Harrow**

A description will be provided at the scheduling meeting.

## REQUIRED SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

**HON 123: Honors World History II**  
**M, W, F 10:00-10:50**

**Dr. Robert Shaffer**

World History II is the second part of a two-semester course devoted to the study of the origins and development of the political, social, and economic institutions that have created the modern world. In this course we will pay particular attention to the interaction between different societies, and to patterns of domination and resistance. Major goals of the class are to help students understand the background of events going on today in the world, and to stimulate reflection on the nature of societies, on change, and on “progress.” The class will help students participate in public life as informed citizens of an increasingly interdependent world. The course emphasizes the critical examination, in class discussion and writing, of primary sources from a wide variety of perspectives and societies.

## CATEGORY A

**HON 130: Introduction to Philosophy**  
**M, W 3:30-4:45**

**Dr. James Edwards**

Rather than studying a few seemingly unconnected problems in philosophy, in this class we are going to restrict our attention to a few philosophers as they struggle with what the very nature and goals of philosophy might be. The philosophers that we will discuss in detail are Plato, Descartes and Berkeley. While each of these writers will have vastly different approaches, they will all ultimately be concerned with whether we can know anything at all. In other words, does philosophy have to take us to the despair of skepticism? The central goal of the course is both to learn how to read and understand philosophical texts, and to learn the essentials of writing philosophy. Both of these tasks are uniquely challenging and rewarding.

## CATEGORY B

### **HON 218: Introduction to Fiction** **T, Th 11:00-12:15**

**Dr. Shari Horner**

This course will examine "coming-of-age" literature—that is, novels and short stories that focus on one of society's most basic themes: what it means to become an adult, a "self" in the world, an individual both dependent on society but also independent of it. How does each of us survive this process? How does it shape us, and how do our experiences shape our understanding of the world? The stories and novels we read in this class will all feature protagonists who are coming-of-age: learning to become adults, but also learning to become (or accept themselves as) individuals, as they make the crucial transition from one stage of their lives to the next. Throughout the semester we will consider the tensions inherent in this theme: between youth and adulthood, innocence and experience, self and community, ignorance and knowledge, and more. We will examine a wide range of literary texts, ranging from nineteenth century English novels to contemporary multicultural short stories to film, in order to understand how different writers represent this important transition. Along the way, we'll spend considerable time studying the elements of fiction and the techniques of literary analysis so that students will become proficient in the critical reading of and writing about works of literature.

Possible texts may include:

John Loughery, ed., *Into the Widening World: International Coming of Age Stories*

Maria Mazziotti Gillan and Jennifer Gillan, eds., *Growing Up Ethnic in America: Contemporary Fiction About Learning to Be American*

Sherman Alexie, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*

Dorothy Allison, *Bastard Out of Carolina*

Milton Murayama, *All I Asking For Is My Body*

Edwidge Danticat, *Breath, Eyes, Memory*

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Bernhard Schlink, *The Reader*

Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*

## CATEGORY B

### **HON 383: 20th Century American Literature** **M, W, F 10:00-10:50**

**Dr. Mary Stewart**

What could be more exciting than reading and discussing American writers and novels from the twentieth century? Let's take a look at fictional families living in various regions of the United States. All are functional and dysfunctional in their own special ways. Some of the novels that I am considering for exploration include Jonathan Franzen's *The Correction* (winner of the National Book Award and an Oprah selection), Alice Sebold's *The Lovely Bones: A Novel*, William Faulkner's *The South and the Fury*, and Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. At this point, I am open to your suggestions. If you are planning on taking the course, let me know a novel you would like to discuss. By the end of the course, you will have reflected upon your own sense of family and the American experience and how this experience has been viewed from the perspective of each novelist. I hope that by exploring a variety of perspectives we will refine our own vision of family and our American heritage.

## CATEGORY C

**HON 244: Honors Geology**  
**T, Th 11:00-12:15**

**Dr. Christopher Woltemade**

Introduction to Geology provides an understanding of both the field of geology as a science and how geology influences and helps to explain the world around us. The course includes local field trips, interpretation of environmental monitoring data, and laboratory exercises to build writing, mathematical, and scientific problem-solving skills. Numerous geologic case studies will be presented.

## CATEGORY D

**HON 278: American Government: Institutions and Public Policies**      **Dr. Ronnie Tucker**  
**M, W, F 9:00-9:50**

This course surveys the power structure and interrelationships of the Presidency, Congress, Courts, and the Bureaucracy. Attention will be given to the formation of public policy in domestic and foreign as well as welfare and educational areas. Current controversies such as affirmative action as a policy will receive special attention.

## CATEGORY E

**HON 163: Introduction to Archaeology: Discovering Ancient Civilizations**  
**Dr. Karl Lorenz**  
**T, Th 9:30-10:45**

Discover the ways that archaeology contributes to an understanding of the “mysteries” of ancient civilizations. Specifically, why did ancient people bury their leaders in colossal stone pyramids, or perform human sacrifice to ensure the rising and setting of the sun each day? In order to best answer these questions, we need to reconstruct the daily lives of the ancients to give us some context for understanding their mysterious actions. We will also compare and contrast the causes for the rise and fall of ancient civilizations to make us aware of tell tale signs of a civilization on the way up as opposed to on the way down. Old World civilizations such as the Sumerians, Egyptians, and Minoans will be discussed in addition to New World civilizations of the Aztec and Maya. Lecture, discussion, and small group work will be complemented with slides and films of the archaeology of ancient world civilizations.