

International Honors Program
Program Learning Objectives
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The seven learning outcomes of the International Honors Program (IHON) reflect the fact that the program is an alternative path toward the partial completion of General Education at Pacific Lutheran University. In addition, the learning outcomes demonstrate IHON's specific charge as an interdisciplinary and internationally focused program.

The logic for these outcomes is twofold. First, each outcome corresponds to, in successive order, one of the seven courses of the IHON curriculum. That is, points 1 and 2 describe the overarching goal for 111 and 112 respectively. Points 3 through 6 represent the requirement that at the 200-level honors students will take four courses, one from each of the following disciplinary perspectives: Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts and Communication. Point 7 communicates the synthetic intellectual work that is expected in the culminating 300-level course of the program.

Second, the outcomes are designed to parallel the mission of Pacific Lutheran University. At the 100-level, honors students study the western intellectual and cultural heritages as well as other-than-western heritages. Such study provides a context for the 200-level courses which focus on particular complex issues and topics germane to selected western and other-than-Western cultures. Finally, the 300-level course provides the opportunity for honors students to develop their own thoughtful ethical framework to help guide them for future "inquiry, service, leadership, and care – for other persons, for their communities, and for the earth." In short, the curriculum consistently asks students to critically reflect on the source and content of Western cultural assumptions, exposes them to the source and content of the assumptions of other-than-Western cultures, and directs students toward the development of an informed, personal worldview.

At the conclusion of the International Honors Program, students will be able to demonstrate the following skills and competencies:

1. Articulate and critically evaluate key historical foundations and traditions of the Western world
2. Compare and contrast the historical foundations and traditions of the Western world with other-than-Western histories, cultures, and traditions
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the diversity of scientific practices and an understanding of how these practices relate to issues of international significance
4. Articulate, contextualize, and critically reflect upon at least one mode of artistic expression and its relationship to cultural value systems in Western and other-than-Western culture
5. Compare, assess, and contextualize, the questions of what it means to be human in a global era from the perspective of two or more Humanities' disciplines
6. Analyze and contextualize the development and variation of human culture and institutions from the perspective of two or more Social Sciences disciplines
7. Evaluate individual, local, and international issues from both a multi-disciplinary perspective and from various ethical frameworks and situate and assert personal values and ethics within this diverse, global context