Clara I. Adams Honors College
Student Handbook
2015-2016
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VISION STATEMENT

The Clara I. Adams Honors College (CIAHC) at Morgan State University is the intellectual incubator for academically-advanced students who choose to matriculate at one of the nation’s premier Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). By exposing its students to enhanced curricula, unique learning opportunities and environments, and a culture of inquisitiveness, the CIAHC will produce a diverse population of critical thinkers who are not only civically engaged, but also prepared to be highly-competitive, thoughtful, and resourceful leaders in a global, interdependent society.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the CIAHC is to recruit, retain, and graduate students who have demonstrated scholarly accomplishment, high motivation, and a desire to achieve at the highest levels. By developing and facilitating activities that create and maintain a superlative learning environment, the CIAHC seeks to fulfill the University’s commitment to “Growing the Future, Leading the World.”

GOALS

The Clara Adams Honors College is a vital academic entity dedicated to the realization of the University’s mission. Our specific goals are:

1. To aggressively recruit high-ability students from high schools and community colleges within Maryland, the mid-Atlantic region, the nation at large, and internationally; and within Morgan State University itself;

2. To bridge communication gaps and work collaboratively with the University community to increase retention and graduation rates of high-ability students;

3. To help Honors students identify and prepare competitive applications for prestigious scholarships (Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, etc.) and study abroad opportunities;

4. To assist students in seeking leadership opportunities that will lay the foundation for a lifelong commitment to civic engagement and enlightened leadership in whatever their chosen fields may be.
## HONORS COURSES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### The Honors Curriculum

#### General Education Requirements*

*General Education Requirements are subject to change. Honors students should refer to the MSU Academic Catalog for the most recent updates.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Courses/Options</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td><strong>Language Arts and Critical Thinking Skills</strong></td>
<td>English 111-112; Philosophy 119</td>
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<td><strong>Humanities and The Arts</strong></td>
<td>Humanities 211-212; Humanities Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Social and Behavioral Sciences</strong></td>
<td>History 111-112; History 115-116; Social Sciences</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td><strong>African and African American Studies</strong></td>
<td>History 360</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological and Physical Sciences</strong></td>
<td>Biology 111 or 112; Chemistry 111 or 112, 110</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physics 111, 203 or 205</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>Mathematics 112; Higher Level Mathematics</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Physical Education</strong></td>
<td>Health Education 103</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Literacy, Technology, Society and Human Values</strong></td>
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</table>
Special Honors Opportunities

Honors College students are afforded special opportunities for academic, cultural and professional development:

- Internships
- Study abroad
- Community service projects
- Special cultural experiences
- Early registration for courses
- Special preparation for graduate and professional school admissions tests
- Affiliation with professional learned societies
- Membership in international and national honor societies
- Membership in regional and national honors organizations
- Opportunities to make presentations at professional meetings
The Clara I. Adams Honors College Office

The Clara I. Adams Honors College is located in the Jenkins Behavioral Science Building, Suite 101.

Office Hours

The office is open from 8:30 AM until 5:00 PM on Monday thru Friday, except on holidays and other times when the University is closed.

Clara I. Adams Honors College Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Dr. Darryl L. Peterkin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darryl.peterkin@morgan.edu">darryl.peterkin@morgan.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services Coordinator</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Ms. Debora Thomas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:debora.thomas@morgan.edu">debora.thomas@morgan.edu</a></td>
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Contacting the Clara I. Adams Honors College

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<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>443.885.3429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td>443.885.8236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:honorscollege@morgan.edu">honorscollege@morgan.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Clara I. Adams Honors College Affiliated Groups

The Honors College Advisory Council

The Honors College Advisory Council is composed of faculty from each College/School and University administrators. The council convenes once each semester and advises the Honors College Director regarding policies and procedures affecting the Honors College.

The Honors College Student Council

The Honors College Student Council is composed of three students from each class (Senior, Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman). The purpose of council is to advise the Honors College Director on issues of importance to the Honors student community. Members the Council will be elected each Spring, and their term of service will begin at the beginning of the next academic year.
The Honors College Ambassadors

The Honors College Ambassadors are specially chosen to represent the Clara I. Adams Honors College at a variety of campus and external functions, including but not limited to:

- High School/College Recruiting Fairs
- Recruiting Phone Banks
- Event Host or Hostess
- Campus Tour Guide

Honor Societies

There are many honor societies at the University that recognize academic and professional accomplishments. Interested students should consult their respective Departments and/or College/School for information regarding their eligibility for membership. The Honors College advises the following honor societies:

1. Alpha Lambda Delta National Academic Honor Society for Freshmen

   Founded in 1924, Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) is a national academic honor society for freshmen. ALD’s mission is to “encourage superior academic achievement, to promote intelligent living and a continued high standard of learning, and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals for their unique roles in society.

   In order to be eligible for membership in ALD, students must have earned a GPA of 3.50 grade point average or be in the top 20% of their class during their first semester at Morgan and have been enrolled on a full-time basis while pursuing a Bachelor’s degree.

   Freshman transfer students from an institution without an ALD chapter must have earned the required ALD grade point average in courses taken during their first semester at Morgan. In addition, the average of the grades from the student’s transfer credits, combined with the grades earned from courses taken at Morgan, must equal the ALD academic GPA requirement.

2. Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Scholastic Honor Society

   Phi Eta Sigma (PES) was established on March 22, 1923 and is the oldest and largest freshman honor society in the nation. PES’s goal is to encourage and reward academic excellence among freshmen in institutions of higher learning. At Morgan, the PES mission is to “promote academic excellence, enhance student life, and support the community at large.”
Dedicated to service and leadership, Morgan’s PES chapter activities include an annual New Member’s Luncheon, annual participation in the Homecoming Decorate-a-Building Contest, and the Give-a-Gift Drive for the Agape House in Baltimore.

Students invited for induction into PES must be full-time students with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 and rank in the upper 20% of their class.

3. Grant-Brett Promethean Kappa Tau

The Promethean Kappa Tau Freshman Honor Society was founded at Morgan State University (then Morgan State College) in 1957 by the late Dr. George C. Grant, who served as Dean of the College. The Society was named by Dr. Sandye J. McIntyre, late Distinguished Professor of Foreign Languages. Dr. Ruth Brett Quarles, late Director of the Counseling Center, served as the advisor to the Society during its first twenty-three years of existence.

In recognition of the outstanding service and contributions of Dean Grant and Dr. Brett, Dr. Clayton Stansbury, emeritus Director of the University Honors Program, renamed the Society to include the names of Dean Grant and Dr. Brett: the Grant-Brett Promethean Kappa Tau Freshman Honor Society. However, it is better known to its members as PKT.

The purpose of PKT is to motivate new freshmen of above average ability to become scholars and to develop personal habits and qualities that will enable them to promote a campus climate that nourishes academic life at Morgan.

In order to be eligible for membership in PKT, students must have 1) earned at least 15 computable semester hours with a semester GPA of at least 3.40 or 2) earned between 12 and 14 computable semester hours with a semester GPA of at least 3.50.

4. Golden Key International Honour Society

The Golden Key International Honour Society (GK) is an internationally recognized, non-profit organization with over 375 chapters throughout the United States and across the globe. As the world’s leading and most active collegiate honor society, Golden Key distinguishes and rewards students by providing a lifetime of benefits through membership.
Each year nearly $600,000 is awarded in scholarships to GK members. In addition, GK offers career assistance through its Corporate Partners, leadership development and community service opportunities, and a chance to network with nearly 2 million members from over 190 countries.

Students qualify for membership if they are ranked in the top 15% of the combined junior and senior classes at Morgan, have earned at least 25 credits at Morgan, and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.40 while having NEVER earned more than two (2) grades less than “C”.

5. National Society of Collegiate Scholars

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is a national nonprofit academic honor society founded in 1994 by Steve Loflin. It has chapters at over 300 institutions across the US, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia with nearly one million lifetime members. The Morgan State University Chapter of NSCS was chartered in Spring 2012. Interested students can find information about this society at www.nscs.org.
Students in the Clara I. Adams Honors College are responsible for the following:

1. Adhering to the terms of the Honors Scholarship Contract signed upon acceptance of a Scholarship award;
2. Maintaining satisfactory progress toward degree;
3. Completing and submitting all Honors College forms by the stated deadlines.
4. Keeping track of and paying all account balances with the University; and also pursuing and acquiring additional financial resources to supplement Scholarship and/or grant awards. **The Clara I. Adams Honors College is not responsible for outstanding and/or past balances owed to the University.**

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**Clara I. Adams Honors College Scholarships**

The Clara I. Adams Honors College provides **merit-based** awards to a limited number of students. The number of scholarships awarded is based upon available funds. Clara I. Adams Honors College scholarships are **NOT** entitlements and are awarded on a **need-blind** basis.

1. Scholarship recipients receive official award packets from the Clara I. Adams Honors College. **The packet contains a Scholarship Contract that must be signed and returned to the Honors College by the stated deadline or the Scholarship offer is null and void.**
2. Scholarship recipients must adhere to the terms of the Scholarship Contract. Failure to do so may result in the reduction or cancellation of the Scholarship.
3. The Honors College reserves the right to review and revise the terms of the Scholarship Contract as necessary.

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**Scholarships for First-year Students:**

1. The Martin D. Jenkins Scholarship
   - Provides for full tuition and fees, room and board
   - $1000 a year for books
   - H.S. GPA of 3.30 or higher
   - SAT score 1200 or higher/ACT score of 26 or higher for Maryland residents (1250 SAT/28 ACT for non-residents)

2. The Harriet Tubman Honors Associate Award
● Provides up to $7,500 a year for tuition and fees
● H.S. GPA of 3.00-3.29
● SAT score 1000 or higher/ACT score of 21 or higher for Maryland residents (1050 SAT/23 ACT for non-residents)

Scholarships for Community College Transfer Students:

1. The Clayton Stansbury Scholarship
   ● Provides up to $4,000 a year for tuition and fees
   ● 3.00 GPA
   ● 24+ credits from a Maryland Community College

2. The Parren J. Mitchell Scholarship
   ● Provides up to $10,000 a year for tuition and fees
   ● Minimum 3.50 GPA and 56 credits or AA/AS from a Maryland Community College

Scholarships for Continuing Students:

Students who have completed **30-56 credits and maintained a minimum GPA of 3.30** are encouraged to apply for a limited number of Tubman Honors Associate scholarships. The number of scholarships each year will depend upon available funding. The application for continuing students will be posted on the CIAHC website (www.morgan.edu/honorscollege) beginning on **01 January** of each academic year. The application deadline is **31 March** of each academic year.
Maintaining a Clara I. Adams Honors College Scholarship

1. Scholarship recipients must adhere to the terms of the Honors Scholarship Contract.
2. At the end of each semester, the Honors College will send each Honors student an academic status letter indicating whether the student is in good standing in the Honors College.
3. Students who are not in good standing and/or violate the terms of the Honors Scholarship Contract are subject to the following outcomes:
   a. First Violation: Letter of Warning
   b. Second Violation: Scholarship Reduction
   c. Third Violation: Scholarship Cancellation

4. Honors students whose scholarships are subject to reduction or cancellation may submit a letter of appeal to the Director of the Honors College. This letter must be typed, double-spaced, and signed. The appeal and any supporting documents must be received by the Honors College within seven (7) calendar days of the issuance of the letter of reduction/cancellation.
**Academic Requirements**

**Credit Hour Load**

1. Honors students must complete at least thirty (30) credits per academic year.
2. While the Honors College recommends a standard course load of fifteen (15) credit hours per semester, the program allows a certain degree of flexibility in the construction of academic schedules.
3. Honors students must maintain twelve (12) credit hours in order to be classified as full-time students.
4. **Taking fewer than twelve (12) credits will result in the immediate cancellation of an Honors scholarship.**

**Grades**

1. Receipt of a failing grade in any course will result in a Warning Letter.
2. Receipt of an Incomplete (“I”) in any course will result in a Warning Letter.
3. **A semester GPA of lower than 2.50 will result in the immediate cancellation of an Honors scholarship.**
4. Receipt of three or more failing grades in a single semester or the receipt of a failing grade for two or more consecutive semesters will result in the cancellation of an Honors scholarship.

**Other Requirements**

**Verification of Academic Credentials**

Honors students must submit final copies of high school and/or community college transcripts to verify qualification for an Honors scholarship. Failure to do so by the beginning of the academic year may result in the withdrawal of an Honors scholarship and/or the activation of a hold upon course registration.

**Academic Advising**

Honors students are required to meet with an academic advisor before registering for, dropping, or adding any course. Each semester students must complete the Academic Advisement form and submit it to the Honors College. Failure to do so by the end of the second week after the beginning of instruction in any semester will result in a Warning Letter. Additional penalties may include the suspension of an Honors scholarship and/or the activation of a hold upon course registration.
Program Attendance

Honors students are required to attend Honors- or University-designated seminars, colloquia, and convocations. A Calendar of Events is available on the Honors College webpage and Blackboard site. Students who cannot attend an event must complete a Required Events Excuse form. Students who arrive more than ten (10) minutes late for required events will be considered late, pending submission of appropriate documentation.

HIPP (Honors Incentive Participation Program)

Inaugurated in Spring 2012, the Honors Incentive Participation Program is a significant change in the Honors College’s approach to co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Events sponsored by the CIAHC or partner organizations will be assigned a certain number of points. Honors students can accumulate these points and use them to attain a variety of prizes and privileges throughout the year. Students who accumulate the most HIPP points during an academic year will be formally recognized at the Spring Honors College Awards Banquet and Awards Ceremony.

Filing of a FAFSA

Honors students who are US citizens or permanent residents are required to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Failure to do so will result in delay the disbursement of an Honors scholarship or, in certain cases, cancellation of a scholarship.
Appendix I. Clara I. Adams Honors College Administrative Forms

Electronic versions of these forms are available on the Honors College webpage and Blackboard site. The Honors College strongly encourages the use of its electronic documents.


### Appendix II. Honors Curriculum and Standard Curriculum Equivalents

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<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Standard Course</th>
<th>Honors Equivalent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Composition I</td>
<td>ENGL 101</td>
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<td>Freshman Composition II</td>
<td>ENGL 102</td>
<td>ENGL 112</td>
</tr>
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<td>Introduction to Logic</td>
<td>PHIL 109</td>
<td>PHIL 119</td>
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<td>Humanities I</td>
<td>HUM 201</td>
<td>HUM 211</td>
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<td>Humanities II</td>
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<td>World History I</td>
<td>HIST 101</td>
<td>HIST 111</td>
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<td>World History II</td>
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<td>HIST 115</td>
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<td>African Diaspora</td>
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<td>PHYS 111</td>
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<td>Health Education</td>
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