



# Honors Courses

## Spring 2025

Course	CRN	Days	Times	Professor
HONR 1857	20313	MW	12:30-1:45 pm	Elizabeth Burrows
HONR 2757	20315	TTh	9:30-10:15 am	Brett Lehman
HONR 3757	21077	MW	9:30-10:15 am	Eric Sterling
HONR 1957 (1 hr.)	20720	W	11 - 11:50 am	Christin LeJeune
HONR 1957 (1 hr.)	21476	F (every third)	9 am - 12:15 pm	Lynn Stallings
HONR 1957 (1 hr.)	21511	F (every other)	10 -11:40 am	David Feltmate

### HONR 1857 Being Human

**Prof. Elizabeth Burrows**

What does it mean to be human? In this section of the freshman honors seminar, HONR 1857, students will engage with a range of questions about the human experience, specifically focused on the concept of purpose. We'll explore purpose in a variety of ways and how it impacts us as humans.

### Honors 2757: The Problem of Other People

**Dr. Brett Lehman**

Explores the experience of learning and socializing on a college campus from the perspective of various social science disciplines, including how recent social, cultural, political, and economic developments have impacted the college experience. Emphasis is placed on how these perspectives shed light on students' own experiences at the AUM campus. Students will apply what they learn towards addressing issues on the campus and/or bolstering strengths of the campus.

### HONR 3757: Challenging the Process

**Dr. Eric Sterling**

This course involves the study of empathy, virtue, and courage during two important historical events: the Holocaust and the Civil Rights Movement. We will start with a brief section on the Holocaust by reading, watching, and discussing Arthur Miller's play *Incident at Vichy*. Miller's play concerns the Holocaust in Vichy, France and explores why some people collaborated with

the Nazis to kill victims while others risked or sacrificed their lives to help innocent people. We will then explore people's actions during the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. We will analyze why some people living in Alabama (such as Martin Luther King and Fred Gray) risked their lives in the fight for Civil Rights while some remained bystanders and some Alabamians chose to oppress and victimize Black citizens. Regarding the latter, we will investigate this question: where did such racial bigotry come from? We will explore ethics, character, virtue, and human nature to determine why people acted as they did. I hope to include a trip to a Civil Rights museum in Montgomery and will ask the students where they would like to go. Lastly, students will interview a witness or participant (or a child or grandchild of that person) in a Civil Rights event, such as someone who attended the Selma to Montgomery March, someone deprived the right to vote or who participated in the bus boycott, or someone jailed unfairly because of their race. We will create an oral history; if we have enough students, perhaps we can create a book out of it to honor (and preserve the memories) of the people we interview.

**HONR 1957: The New Atheists in 21st Century America (colloquium) Dr. David Feltmate**  
As long as some people have believed in gods, others have thought them stupid. In the early 21st century a new wave of atheism spread loudly across the United States as intellectuals trained in a variety of disciplines—biology, philosophy, neuroscience—and illusionist magicians came together to address what they saw as the growing problem of fundamentalist religious belief. In this colloquium we will read their thoughts, ask each other why they took the paths that they did, and how they have come together to create a lasting movement that looks suspiciously like the religions that they decried.

**HONR 1957: Disney through the Decades (colloquium) Prof. Christin LeJeune**  
From Steamboat Willie to Mickey Mouse, from Snow White to Elsa, from fairytale kingdoms to galaxies far, far away, the Walt Disney Company has been a cultural cornerstone in the United States for over 100 years. Journey through major moments in the company's history, including the birth and beginnings of the company's founder, Walt Disney, Disney's contributions to home front efforts in World War 2, the creation of the first full-length animated film, and much, much more! This course will strongly examine the impact of Disney's worldview on American culture, its branding and marketing, and various significant moments in its history (i.e. the Silver Age, the Disney Renaissance, etc.)

**HONR 1957: City as Text: Montgomery (colloquium) Dr. Lynn Stallings**  
City as Text is a method developed by the honors community in which one explores a city as an anthropologist might. We will make several field trips to explore Montgomery and visit area sites (e.g., Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. Institute; White House of the Confederacy; Chris's Hot Dogs) at no cost to students. Each student will also research a topic related to their major and

Montgomery and make a presentation on the topic. The course will meet Fridays from 9 am - 12:15 pm on 1/17, 2/7, 2/28, 3/21, 4/11, and during exam week.

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**Honors Thesis Notes:**

- *If you can, schedule HONR 3957 in your junior year so that you can have plenty of time to complete your thesis.*
- *Your thesis is done independently under the supervision of your mentor in your major.*

**HONR 3957: Honors Research***varies*

In this course, you work with your faculty mentor to decide on your research direction and methods. See <https://www.aum.edu/academics/university-honors-program/> or talk to Dr. Stallings or Ms. Jackie for more information. Fill out the form by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the semester. Ms. Jackie will create a section for you.

**HONR 4957: Honors Thesis***varies*

In this course, you continue and complete the research begun in HONR 3957. See <https://www.aum.edu/academics/university-honors-program/> or talk to Dr. Stallings or Ms. Jackie for more information. Ms. Jackie will create a section for you under the name of your faculty mentor.