Marymount University
Arlington, Virginia
The Marymount University Honors Program offers students the opportunity to augment their academic experience with a specialized curriculum designed to provide greater depth, breadth, and challenge. The program’s curriculum consists of 24 credits (8 classes) that can be integrated into the requirements for any major. The program emphasizes undergraduate scholarship and, as such, culminates in a mentored research project.

In addition to the intellectual benefits, participants in the Honors Program are eligible for significant financial aid, priority registration, research and travel support, and involvement with program governance and co-curricular planning.

Any student may apply to the Honors Program, but admission is competitive and limited to a maximum of 20 participants each year. There is no fee to apply. The applicant should

• submit an Honors essay (the Honors Committee places great emphasis on the essay when judging program applications);
• have a minimum high school or college GPA of 3.5;
• have a minimum composite (Math and Critical Reading) SAT score of 1200 and/or a composite (English, Reading, Math, and Science) ACT score of 26;
• have a strong background in English composition and literature;
• provide three letters of recommendation, preferably from faculty members who can comment on the applicant’s academic achievement and scholarly potential; and
• interview with the Honors Program director or a member of the Honors Committee.

International students for whom English is a second language must also present a qualifying score from one English language proficiency exam. The following is a list of minimum scores:

• Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): 617 for the paper-based test or 105 for the Internet-based test
• International English Language Testing System (IELTS): 7.5
• Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic: 72

The application process for the Honors Program is separate from the general admissions process. Please complete and return the general application prior to, or concurrently with, this Honors Program application.

Submission Date
Applications received by February 1 will be given priority consideration.

The Honors Program application (including the essay) should be sent to

Office of Admissions
Honors Program
Marymount University
2807 N. Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22207-4299

For more information, please contact the Office of Admissions or the Honors Program.

Admissions Office ......................... (703) 284-1500, (800) 548-7638
Fax ........................................................................... (703) 522-0349
TTY access through Virginia Relay Service ...................... (800) 828-1120
Email .......................................................... admissions@marymount.edu
Honors Program ............................................. (703) 284-1629
Honors Program Email ...................................... honors@marymount.edu
Honors Program Website ............................. www.marymount.edu/honors
APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name ___________________________________________ Home Phone _______________________________
Address _________________________________________ Email ______________________________
City/State/ZIP ____________________________________ Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____________

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Anticipated major ___________________________________ Grade Point Average _____ (on a 4.0 scale with 4.0 as the maximum)

Current school __________________________________________ Location ______________________________

High school (if different from current school) __________ Location ______________________________

Standardized Tests

SAT (if taken more than once, indicate all scores)          ACT (if taken more than once, indicate all scores)

Test date(s) __________________________________________ Test date(s) __________________________

Composite (Math and Critical Reading) SAT score(s) __________ Composite ACT score(s) __________________________

Math subscore(s) ______________________________________ English subscore(s) ______________________

Critical Reading subscore(s) ___________________________ Reading subscore(s) _______________________

Writing subscore(s) ___________________________ Math subscore(s) ___________________________

Writing Essay subscore(s) (2-12) __________________________ Science subscore(s) ______________________

Writing Multiple Choice subscore(s) (20-80) ______________

TOEFL score (international students for whom English is a second language) Score Test Date Indicate if Paper-based or Internet-based

IELTS score (international students for whom English is a second language) Score Test Date

PTE Academic score (international students for whom English is a second language) Score Test Date

Completed AP tests and scores ______________________________________________________________

AP courses in progress ________________________________________________________________

AP tests yet to be completed ____________________________________________________________

Completed Transfer/IB credit ____________________________________________________________

Transfer/IB courses in progress ________________________________________________________

Major extracurricular activities ________________________________________________________

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ESSAY

On a separate sheet, please compose an essay of 350 to 500 words, double spaced, on one of the following topics. Be sure to support your position objectively and cite your sources properly. The Honors Committee places great emphasis on the essay when judging program applications; please note that the committee will evaluate the quality of thought expressed in your writing, not the position or opinions you express.

1) It has been said that the arts are a mirror of culture and self. Choose one work of art or entertainment (poem, book, play, film, etc.) and, using excerpts from that work as well as your own words, describe how it reflects who you are or how it has helped shape your understanding of yourself.

2) Look around your house and select a handheld device such as a remote control, digital camera, cellphone, or electronic toy. Examine how the selected device has been designed by focusing on how the user will interact with it. Provide a critique of the successes or failures of the device’s design based on your own use of the product. Explain how you would increase its usability and function. If this product was designed for the global marketplace, detail how your answer would change for enhancing its usability when considering the variety of cultures throughout the world. Provide specific examples of modifications to the way a user might interact with the device because of these cultural differences and defend your suggestions.

3) In a digital environment, your personal information can be accessed and analyzed by various companies and organizations without your knowledge and permission. Have we, as a society, lost our fundamental right to privacy? What are your privacy rights and how can you protect them from abuse?

4) Responding to fears that the Earth is running out of natural resources to meet the needs of a rapidly growing human population, economist Julian Simon argued that the creative human mind is “the ultimate resource.” Would you argue that human beings are doomed by a scarcity of resources or that they are capable of sustaining a growing population through innovation of new technological solutions, discovery of new resources, and alternative uses of existing resources? Defend your answer with specific examples.

I certify that the above information is complete and accurate, and that I am the author of the attached essay and have properly cited all sources.

Signature ___________________________________________ Date _________________

Marymount University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or other protected class in any of its educational programs or activities. For inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, contact the 504 coordinator, (703) 284-1615, or the Title IX coordinator, (703) 284-1511.

The Campus Safety Report, describing campus safety policies and campus crime information, is available upon request.
MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY
Honors Program Recommendation

Applicant: Fill in the shaded section below and give this form to a teacher, your dean of students, or — for those applicants who are no longer in school — your employer. (Recommendations from family members cannot be accepted.) Ask the recommender to answer the questions, sign the form, and send it to Admissions Office, Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22207-4299. Questions may be directed to (703) 284-1500 or (800) 548-7638.

The following questions are to be answered by the person recommending the applicant. Attach a separate sheet of paper if you need more space.

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. What are the applicant’s outstanding personal and/or academic characteristics?
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Is this student’s academic record an accurate reflection of his/her abilities?  □ Yes  □ No (please explain)
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

4. Comment on the applicant’s attributes. We are interested in your opinion of the applicant’s academic achievements, scholarly potential, and enthusiasm for learning.
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Marymount Student ID or Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____________

Last
First
Middle
Maiden
Permanent home address __________________________________________________________
Number and street
City State ZIP Country
Permanent home telephone ( ) _____________

□ I do not waive the right of access to this form.  □ I waive the right of access to this form.

Signature ________________________________________________________________

Applicant: Fill in the shaded section below and give this form to a teacher, your dean of students, or — for those applicants who are no longer in school — your employer. (Recommendations from family members cannot be accepted.) Ask the recommender to answer the questions, sign the form, and send it to Admissions Office, Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22207-4299. Questions may be directed to (703) 284-1500 or (800) 548-7638.
5. The applicant is:  
☐ Recommended  
☐ Recommended with reservation. Please provide an explanation on a separate sheet.  
☐ Not recommended for the Honors Program at Marymount University.  
☐ Check here if you wish to have the Admissions Office contact you for further information.

Signature ___________________________________________   Date ___________________________________________

Name ___________________________________________   Title ___________________________________________

Institution__________________________________________________________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________________________________________________

Work phone (  ) ___________________________________________   Home phone (  ) ___________________________________________

Email ________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please feel free to attach an additional sheet with more remarks/recommendations about this applicant.