SAU Honors College

General Information: Founded in 2003 and enrolling nearly 200 students. Honors College students comprise 6% of SAU’s total enrollment and major in all four of SAU’s Colleges. About 10% are international students. The rest come from Arkansas and nearby states. All are serious about academics; nearly all graduate in four years or less and many enroll in graduate or professional programs. The Honors College expects its students to learn leadership skills and to support local communities.

Admission Criteria: We admit first-year and transfer students based upon a global assessment of academic potential. We examine ACT scores, high school GPA, the required two essays, and two letters of recommendation. Current SAU students who have earned at least a 3.5 GPA may petition the Honors College for admission. Classes do not necessarily involve a greater amount of work than other classes, but require students to apply critical thinking skills and function at a higher cognitive level.

Example: Why are manhole covers round?

Requirements: Students must maintain a 3.25 GPA in order to remain in the Honors College. In order to graduate with an Honors College degree students must complete a minimum of 24 honors hours.

Scholarships: Honors students receive an annual stipend of $600 ($300/semester) in addition to any other scholarships earned.

Travel and Opportunities: The Honors College sponsors educational trips and travel to academic conferences. Honors students have traveled to international destinations including London, South Africa, New Zealand, Havana, Paris, Venice, Florence, and Rome. National sites include Boston, New Orleans, Washington DC, Portland, Chicago, Denver, Seattle, and Atlanta.

Honors students receive priority registration throughout their academic careers at SAU. They may elect to live in Honors Hall or any of the residence halls on campus. Juniors and seniors may choose to reside in the University Village on-campus apartments. Honors students receive a special diploma and recognition of their honors status on their transcripts. They are also recognized at commencement.

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