

# Honors Program Syllabus

The Baruch Honors Program is more than a collection of honors courses. It is a comprehensive academic experience that extends a student beyond academic excellence into realms of cultural exploration, international experience, leadership and service, and research/creative inquiry.

## Community

Baruch Honors is a community of students, staff, and faculty members who forge relationships in and beyond the classroom.

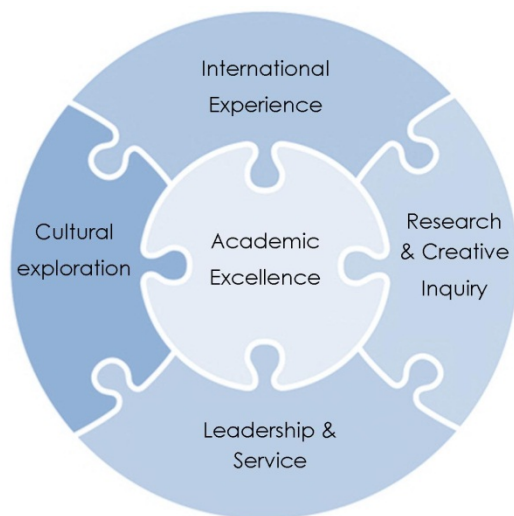
*“As a member of Honors, what part will you play in shaping your own intellectual and personal growth and making progress toward the challenges of our world?”*

### *Academic Integrity:*

As a tight-knit, interconnected community, academic honesty is of utmost importance to us all, for your own development and in the spirit of fairness, trust, and respect. As such, we encourage you to honor the statement of academic integrity found in each course syllabus and abide by the Baruch statement on academic integrity: [http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic\\_honesty.html](http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic_honesty.html)

## Honors Advisement

Your Honors Advisor helps you build your academic experience, encouraging you to connect the puzzle pieces of your education (see below) through your college narrative.



As an honors student you are expected to be active and fully engaged in the classroom and within the communities you belong to (Baruch, Honors, and beyond). While you are a self-directed learner, your advisor is here to help you plan your own development – similar to academic mentorship in a small liberal arts college or executive coaching in the corporate world. Your advisor will both challenge and support you.

**Role of the Advisor:** *What can you expect?* Advisement connects academic requirements, student learning, and personal goals in presenting to its options and opportunities. You can expect:

- A relationship of professionalism and respect
- Support as you take ownership of your education, crafting a meaningful program of study, including an undergraduate research/inquiry project
- Support for your personal and academic development as you make responsible choices toward understanding and achieving your educational, personal, and career goals
- Understanding of academic policies, expectations, and Honors requirements; collaboration with you to meet or exceed these standards
- Expansion of your awareness of potential opportunities available in college, NYC, and the global community
- Meaningful assessment of program objectives to ensure understanding of student needs

### **Role of the Scholar:** *What does your advisor expect from you?*

Advisement is a shared responsibility between the Scholar and Baruch advisors. Choices are in the hands of the student to make connections between academic requirements, learning, and personal goals. In particular, as self-advocates, your advisor expects:

- A relationship of professionalism and respect
- You come prepared to regular advising appointments with an understanding of degree requirements, university resources, and academic opportunities. For example study abroad, independent inquiry (such as writing a thesis), co-curricular, and professional opportunities
- Development of faculty relationships outside of courses by attending office hours, Honors faculty events (e.g. Free Thinking Lunches and Faculty Forays), and maintaining contact
- Maintenance of good academic standing in the Honors Program, meeting or exceeding minimum requirements for grade point average, community service, and cultural exploration
- Pursuit of personal, academic, and professional goals, incorporating reflection on your academic and co-curricular experiences
- Critical engagement with your educational experience within the classroom and beyond. Ask lots of questions!
- Thoughtful leadership development and community engagement
- You read your Baruch email, through which all official correspondence will be sent

Here are three points to consider in strategizing making the most of your advisement resources:

1. Self-Advocacy: As a scholar at Baruch, you have many sources of advisement information available to you; take advantage of these resources, for example, the Student Academic Advising Center, Degree Works, CUNY First, the current Undergraduate Bulletin, The Baruch and Honors websites, and Faculty and staff.
2. Maximize time with professionals: Honors advisement can serve as an informational resource; however, the primary goal in Honors advising is to assist you in planning your own academic engagement and personal development. Therefore, coming to advisement appointments prepared to ask questions and share information will amplify your experience and the relationship with your advisor. Finding information that is readily available you will enhance your advisement experience, as well as prepare you for future professional relationships.
3. Nurture Connections: Following up on advisement discussions is critical. For example, you should contact referrals, consider new opportunities presented to you, and complete any assignments from your advisor. This approach extends to nurturing connections you make with professors and professionals beyond the classroom.

## **Honors Expectations**

### Cultural Exploration

Cultural event requirements allow you to explore various modes of aesthetic expression. As a Scholar in New York City you have unparalleled access to cultural experiences envied throughout the world. Pursue as many cultural experiences as possible, making it a habit to frequent amazing, culturally enriching opportunities available to you. Ideally, you will visit New York City cultural events regularly, study abroad for at least one semester or year, and cultivate an active cultural curiosity.

You are also expected to engage in the rich cultural life of Baruch College and attend at least one campus cultural event per semester. Scholars regularly exceed this minimum. As with any college experience – academics, relationships with faculty and peers, leadership opportunities – you will only reap the harvest from seeds you sow. In other words, you can get as much out of your Honors experience as you put into it.

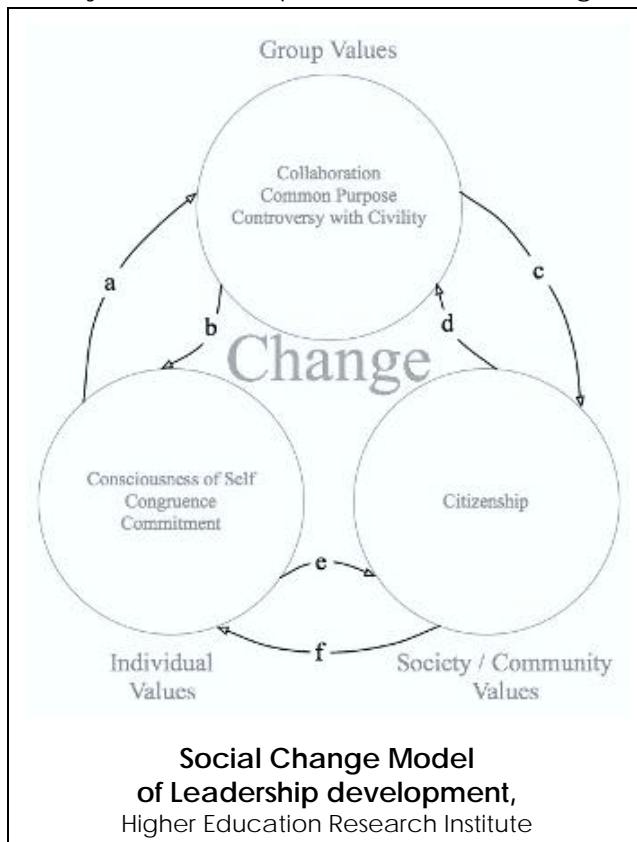
Cultural credit is processed with the Honors front desk staff; details are on the Honors webpage.

### Leadership and Service

Like the Office of Student Life, Honors is committed to enhancing leadership capabilities in every Scholar and uses the Social Change Model of Leadership development, which “approaches leadership as a purposeful, collaborative, values-based process that results in positive social change.” With a focus on *individual*, *group*, and *community* values, each of these three dimensions of the Social Change Model connect to promote the “7Cs for Change”: Consciousness of self, Congruence, Commitment, Collaboration, Common purpose, Controversy with civility, and Citizenship.

Using the Social Change Model, reflect upon who you are as a leader and closely examine how you can be a proactive individual agent of change participate in a community of

socially responsible and committed citizens can make significant advances towards a common goal.



### Service:

Your service requirement as a Scholar at Baruch (a minimum of 15 hours per academic year) is part of the Honors Program’s philosophy of service. Service is mutually beneficial-- a path of personal growth and a way to enhance the lives of others.

Service is an opportunity for learning and reflection. Consider how serving others fosters your own development, whether intellectual, civic, ethical, moral, cross-cultural or spiritual. Furthermore, consider your experience an opportunity to understand the “historical, sociological, cultural, economic, and political contexts of the needs or issues being addressed.”

Service is not only an opportunity for learning, but also a privilege – as an

opportunity to work *with* others instead of *for* them. The 15-hour requirement is offered as a minimum guideline. Most scholars exceed this level of involvement. A short written reflection on the experience is required and outlined in the Verification of Service form.

**Advising Resources** are provided on our webpage and in HonorsConnect, the weekly Honors announcements, including registration info., deadlines, and upcoming events.