

Policy for Teaching Honors Courses

Each semester, the history department offers Honors College sections of the US history survey courses (HIST 2675 and HIST 2685), as well as reserved Honors College seats in two of our advanced courses (called Combined Courses). The Honors College expectations for these courses are:

Honors College US History Survey Courses (HIST 2675 and HIST 2685): UNT faculty engage students in an environment that challenges students and advances academic achievement. These courses are specifically designed to facilitate deep engagement with course material. Classes are kept small to foster student involvement, classroom discussion, and opportunities for faculty to experiment with innovative pedagogical approaches. Classes are capped at 30 students.

Combined Courses: Honors and non-Honors students enroll in the same course under different section numbers. The sections meet together. Students enrolled in the Honors section have a supplemental syllabus that provides opportunities for more sophisticated engagement with the course material. The supplemental requirements may incorporate research, field work, collaboration, projects, or presentations.

To apply to teach an Honors College US History Survey Course (HIST 2675 or HIST 2685), faculty members must submit the following to the Undergraduate Committee:

1. An idea for a central theme around which to build the Honors section of the US survey course and a brief explanation for how this central theme will meet the Honors College expectations stated above
2. A sample syllabus or a rough outline that includes a plan for how the central theme will provide structure for the course, course reading materials, and course assignments/assessments, explaining how the course will offer students engaging learning opportunities not usually offered in a non-Honors College US history survey course

To apply to teach a Combined Course (an advanced HIST course), faculty members must submit the following to the Undergraduate Committee:

1. A sample syllabus for the advanced course
2. A sample supplemental syllabus detailing the opportunities that will be provided for more sophisticated engagement with the course materials for Honors College students

The members of the Undergraduate Committee will make recommendations to the department chair based on the materials provided, with preference for:

- Plans that demonstrate innovative pedagogical approaches
- Plans that provide Honors College students with opportunities for deep engagement with course materials
- Plans that seek to challenge Honors College students and provide learning opportunities above and beyond what is usually offered in non-Honors courses

Approved by the Undergraduate Committee, November 8, 2023.