



Honors College

For students who want more.



More community.

More perspectives
and new ideas.

More activities
that engage and
challenge you.

The opportunity to
excel in all you do.

Honors College

A Quality Education

Since Hofstra University's founding in 1935, three qualities have been consistently evident – vision, commitment to academic excellence, and the capacity to change.

In fall 2001, the University re-articulated its commitment to these qualities with the establishment of Hofstra University Honors College (HUHC), a unique program designed to provide an enriched educational experience to our high-achieving and motivated students. At Honors College, we build upon Hofstra's superb resources and reputation.

HOFSTRA
UNIVERSITY

HU
HC

HONORS
COLLEGE

What is Honors College? It's about conversation.

Honors College
Dean Warren G. Frisina
at Café Bistro
at Bits 'n' Bytes.

Honors College is a community of students and faculty committed to academic excellence and critical engagement. We embark on life's great questions in conversations that begin in our classrooms and carry forward to our lounges, dinner tables, and residence halls. These conversations teach us to see ourselves and the world through the eyes of others and open us to new possibilities. We also enjoy spending time together and sharing ideas.

Rosie Ortiona refers to Hofstra University Honors College as her "second home."

"Honors College is one of the best niche communities I have found in the larger community of Hofstra," Rosie said. "I know anytime I need to, I can go to the second floor of the Axinn Library and chat with [Honors College] Dean [Warren] Frisina, [Senior Associate] Dean [Neil] Donahue and everyone else in the office," said Rosie. "You don't need a specific question; you can go in just for advice and moral support."

As a member of LEAP (Legal Education Accelerated Program), Rosie is simultaneously completing her senior undergraduate year and her first year at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University. She says that the organizational and critical thinking skills she developed in the Honors College Culture & Expression course gave her the confidence to take on the goal of earning a bachelor's degree and a law degree in just six years.

"It [Culture & Expression] opened my mind to certain ideas that reverberated in different classes," said Rosie. "It affected how fast I get through books, how I approach certain texts ... It definitely set the tone for the rest of my undergraduate career."

"Honors College is my second home."
— Rosie Ortiona

Rosie Ortiona Class of 2012
Major: Economics; LEAP



Who are Honors College students? They're diverse in interests and backgrounds.

A photograph of three students walking outdoors on a path. On the left, a young woman with brown hair and sunglasses is wearing a green denim jacket and talking to a young man in the center. The man is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and has a backpack. On the right, a young woman with long brown hair and a white headband is wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt and carrying a black suitcase. They are all smiling and appear to be in conversation.

The profile of Honors College students is impressive. Most entering students come from the top 10 percent of their high school classes. But Honors College students are much more than statistics. They come from across the United States and several countries. They are student-leaders who invent and build new programs. They are athletes and musicians, scientists, philosophers and poets in the making. They come to study business, education, filmmaking, and more. In short, the diversity of Honors College students is a perfect match for the diversity of Hofstra's undergraduate majors.

Although sophomore Candice Sands just completed her first year in Hofstra University Honors College, she is already reaping the benefits. After taking Culture & Expression, a mandatory four-course cluster that builds community among first-year students, Candice is hooked, and she knows that future seminars will greatly enhance her education.

"The honors seminars are so unique and promote such freedom of thought and debate," says Candice, a math education major. "Taking classes in Honors College allows me to hear perspectives of students from so many different majors, thus changing the way I approach problems and think about things."

While much of her course work is concentrated in math, Candice acknowledges the advantages of honors classes for students in any major. "When I become a math teacher, it's not just about knowing math. You have to know how to critically think to create solutions to the problems students are facing. Being a good reader is important too, because so much of math education revolves around word problems. Culture & Expression really helped me build some of these skills."

For Candice, the benefits of Honors College extend beyond the classroom. During her first year, Candice took advantage of honors-exclusive trips and activities, including a Broadway musical, kayaking, and a scavenger hunt in New York City. The activities cultivated friendships with other students and faculty members.

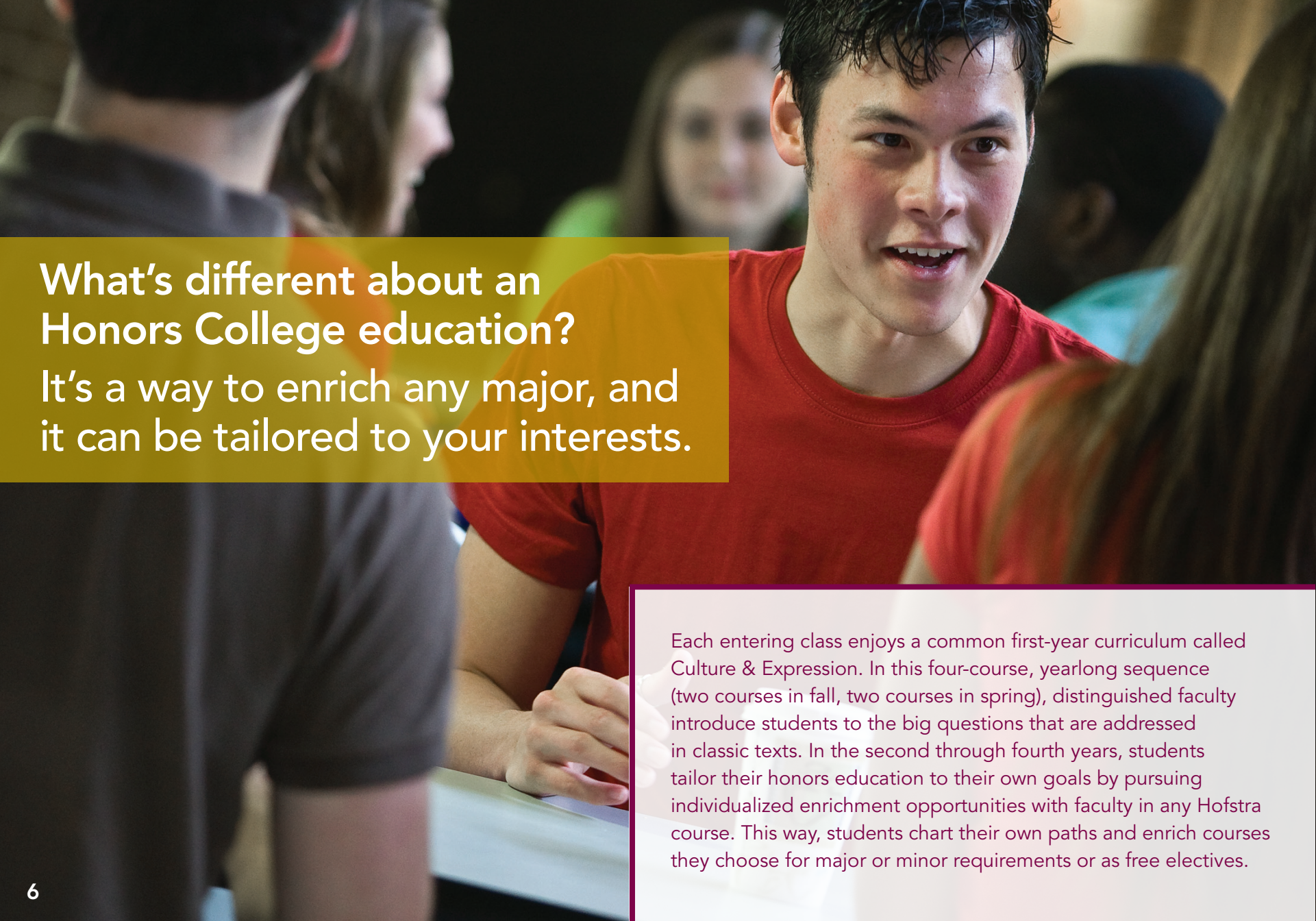
"It can be a hard transition as a freshman," Candice says, "but Honors College organizes so many different events and outings for you to meet other students and become part of what really is a family. Honors mentors always have their door open, and they'll help you with anything."

"When I become a math teacher, it's not just about knowing math. You have to know how to critically think to create solutions to the problems students are facing."

— Candice Sands

A close-up portrait of Candice Sands, a young woman with dark, wavy hair and black-rimmed glasses. She is smiling warmly at the camera. The background is a soft-focus field of red flowers.

Candice Sands Class of 2014
Major: Math Education Minor: Psychology



What's different about an Honors College education?
 It's a way to enrich any major, and it can be tailored to your interests.

Each entering class enjoys a common first-year curriculum called Culture & Expression. In this four-course, yearlong sequence (two courses in fall, two courses in spring), distinguished faculty introduce students to the big questions that are addressed in classic texts. In the second through fourth years, students tailor their honors education to their own goals by pursuing individualized enrichment opportunities with faculty in any Hofstra course. This way, students chart their own paths and enrich courses they choose for major or minor requirements or as free electives.

For Neil Schloth, becoming a part of Hofstra University Honors College felt like destiny. From the time he was a second-grader, Neil, originally from Lynbrook, New York, attended Hofstra Summer Camp and later, the University's Adventure Education Camp run by Brian Clocksin, an associate professor in the Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences. Eventually, he began working at the camp as a 10th grader. So, it seemed like a sign when, upon admission to Honors College, Neil was assigned Professor Clocksin as a mentor.

Neil spent the spring of his first year at Hofstra speaking with deans and professors from different disciplines in search of the major that best fit his interests and aspirations. He finally decided on information technology. Honors option courses provide a great opportunity to tailor study around his interests and goals. "In Honors College, you meet so many different people that are passionate about so many different subjects," Neil said. "That's the best part ... the diversity. You realize you want to have that passion, too, and you become very driven to find it."

While Honors College requires a greater commitment during the first year, the tight-knit community makes those demands worth it, Neil said. "While the work load may be especially challenging for new college freshmen, the core of friends we develop throughout the process makes that regular college transition so much easier."

In Introduction to Computer Concepts, Neil is focusing on his interest in consumer relations by examining crisis communication and information technology. "Once you get your honors option approved, you work closely with professors and develop relationships that mimic those in the professional world."

"In Honors College, you meet so many different people that are passionate about so many different subjects."

— Neil Schloth



Neil Schloth Class of 2014
 Major: Information Technology

Two Honors College students volunteering at a local food pantry.

What other advantages does Honors College offer? The best of two worlds.

Honors College students benefit from the best of two worlds. They belong to a nurturing and close-knit student community that enjoys the challenges and stimulation of performing at the highest levels, as though they are at a small liberal arts college. Yet they also have access to the complete range of curricular and extracurricular opportunities offered by a university of Hofstra's size and scope. Our community is tight (we support one another) but inclusive (we're always forming partnerships with students and faculty across the campus). Honors College students participate in a variety of social service programs on campus and in the community. They also enjoy regular trips to theaters, museums, cultural sites and events in New York City; up-close encounters with visiting lecturers and dignitaries; and a host of social and intellectual activities throughout the year.

Sandra Dobbs Bishop and Tom Bishop, members of the first graduating class of Honors College, had a number of life-shaping experiences as Hofstra University Honors College students. Sandra, a California native, says, "Without Honors College, I probably would not have come to Hofstra, and, as a result, would not have realized how much I love traveling." Without Honors College, Sandra also would not have met Tom Bishop, a fellow Honors College student, who became her husband in September 2005. The two discovered their mutual love of traveling and volunteering and have incorporated both into their life's work.

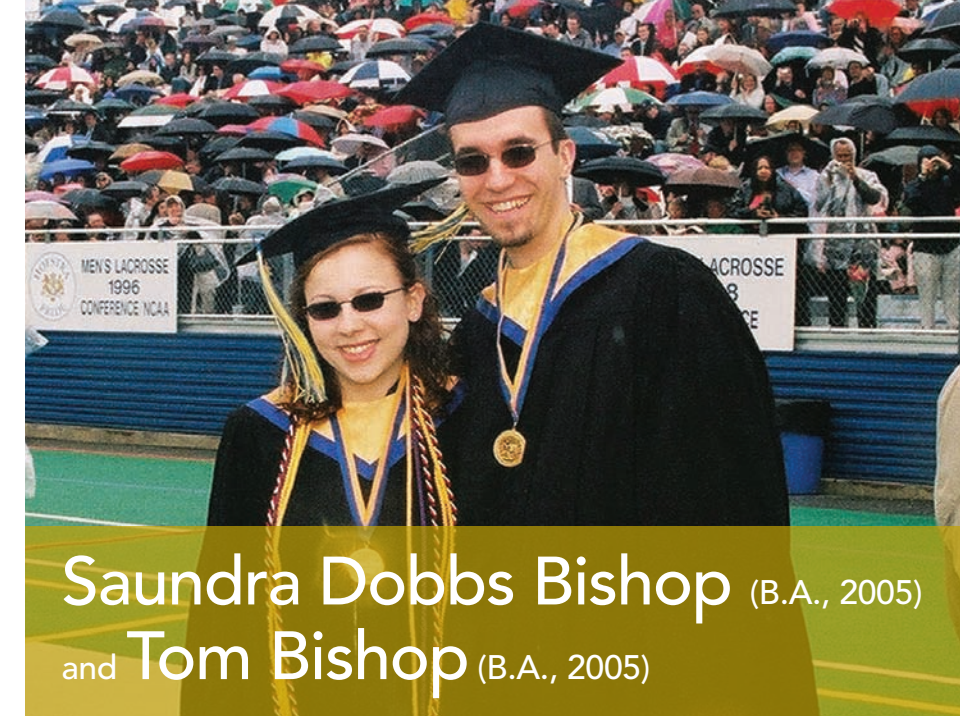
"I loved Honors College," Sandra recalled. "It was great having open door access to the deans. I always had a place I could go when I needed assistance. Also, it was incredible having such respected scholars constantly available to discuss ideas, problems, and any other topic that was relevant."

Since graduating, the Bishops have traveled to Ghana, Guatemala, Mexico, Costa Rica, Rwanda, India and Egypt as goodwill ambassadors. In Ghana, they coordinated malaria education programs, taught English, worked in orphanages and helped construct a building. They worked at an animal rehabilitation center in Guatemala, a soup kitchen in Mexico, orphanages in Costa Rica and Rwanda, an English program in Egypt, and with Tibetan refugees in India. They also ran Sungsim Women's Organization, a community-based organization headquartered in Ghana.

Sandra is a behavioral therapist working with children and young adults who have Asperger's syndrome and autism spectrum disorders. She wrote a book based on their experiences, titled *Don't Sleep Near the Manzanillo Tree: How to Volunteer Abroad Independently and Survive*. Tom teaches high school English and is pursuing graduate studies as well. Most important, Sandra and Tom now have a daughter, Eleanor, who has changed their lives in ways that go beyond what they've learned from exotic travel. Looking back, it's amazing to think about all that came from their initial meeting as members of HUHC's first class.

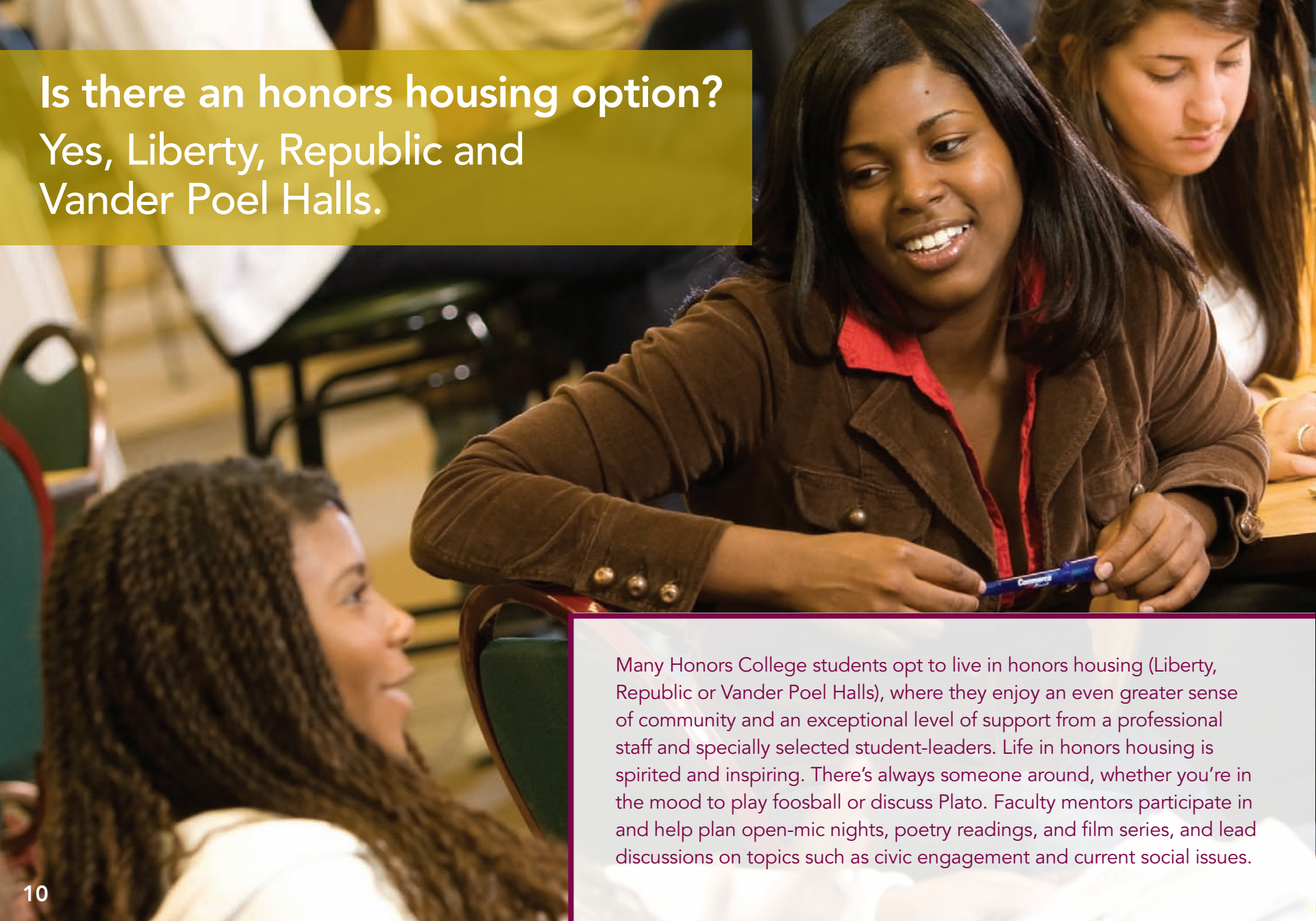
"I loved Honors College. It was great having open door access to the deans. I always had a place I could go when I needed assistance."

— Sandra Dobbs Bishop



Sandra Dobbs Bishop (B.A., 2005)
and Tom Bishop (B.A., 2005)





Is there an honors housing option?
Yes, Liberty, Republic and
Vander Poel Halls.

Many Honors College students opt to live in honors housing (Liberty, Republic or Vander Poel Halls), where they enjoy an even greater sense of community and an exceptional level of support from a professional staff and specially selected student-leaders. Life in honors housing is spirited and inspiring. There's always someone around, whether you're in the mood to play foosball or discuss Plato. Faculty mentors participate in and help plan open-mic nights, poetry readings, and film series, and lead discussions on topics such as civic engagement and current social issues.

Amy Ginther, who was in Honors College's first graduating class, has always been ready to explore new options and embrace new challenges. "I chose Honors College because I wanted an alternative university experience," she said. "I wanted to be challenged in specific ways that catered to my intelligence and potential."

Amy, who graduated with a B.F.A. in dramatic performance and minors in English and photography, wrote a one-woman show for her honors thesis. After graduating, she took the show on the road, performing at the 2006 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. "Your honors thesis depends a lot on your advisors," she said. "My thesis advisor was Jean Giebel [associate professor of drama and dance], and she was absolutely wonderful. But Eduardo Duarte [associate professor of teaching, literacy and leadership] was also one of my mentors from the get-go, and he continues to be a friend to this day. He inspired me and gave me resources for some of my ongoing projects."

After Edinburgh, Amy returned to the States and became company manager for the Aquila Theatre Company, coordinating a four-month, 26-state theater tour. Amy has TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certification and was teaching in Korea until recently. In October she began a master's program in voice studies at Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

"There were many things at Honors College that provided me with opportunities to grow, not just as a student but as a young person," Amy recalled. "All the affordable ventures, such as trips to the opera, allowed me to find new passions and interests."

"There were many things at Honors College that provided me with opportunities to grow, not just as a student but as a young person ..."

— Amy Ginther

Amy Ginther (B.F.A., 2005)



How do I apply to Honors College? Check the box.



To be considered for admission to Honors College, new students need only check the interest box on the Hofstra application. Decisions are based on a careful review of achievements, including extracurricular activities, high school GPA, writing ability and standardized test scores. Students who are not invited to join Honors College in the fall of their first year may be invited to apply after completing their first semester at Hofstra. In such cases, admission decisions are based on the student's performance at Hofstra.

A Look at the HUHC Class of 2015

Average HS GPA: 4.0

Average SAT: 1323

Students From Outside New York State: 49 percent

Students Who Live on Campus: 76 percent

Costs and Financial Aid (2011-2012)

Tuition and Fees: \$34,150

Average Housing and Dining Plan: \$11,650

Average Institutional Tuition Gift Aid (HUHC): \$22,085

Percentage of students receiving Financial Aid (HUHC): 100%

Geographic Profile

U.S. States and Territories: 50

Foreign Countries: 72

Academic Profile

Undergraduate Program Options: About 140

Full-time Faculty Holding Advanced Degree: 93 percent

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 14-to-1

Average Undergraduate Class Size: 21

Facilities and Resources

Library Holdings: 1.2 million print volumes

Residence Halls: 37

Student Clubs and Organizations: 175

Varsity Athletics (NCAA Division I)

Baseball (M)

Soccer (M/W)

Basketball (M/W)

Softball (W)

Cross Country (M/W)

Tennis (M/W)

Field Hockey (W)

Volleyball (W)

Golf (M/W)

Wrestling (M)

Lacrosse (M/W)

Hofstra at a Glance



Hofstra University is committed to extending equal opportunity to all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, marital or veteran status in employment and in the conduct and operation of Hofstra University's educational programs and activities, including admissions, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school administered programs.



1-800-HOFSTRA
hofstra.edu/HonorsCollege



FIND US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/HofstraAdmission

FOLLOW US ON
 @ApplytoHofstra

CHECK US OUT ON
youtube.com/HofstraUniversity