

Montgomery County Community College  
HON 203H  
Honors Experience  
3-2-1

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This service-learning course will enrich Honors Program students' and Phi Theta Kappa members' academic environment with an opportunity to explore and acquire a deeper understanding of significant and timely interdisciplinary questions and civic issues. This course will cover a different subject each semester based on Phi Theta Kappa's "Honors in Action" program, but will consistently utilize student research of a variety of perspectives to collaboratively develop sustainable service projects improving the world around them, encouraging excellence. This course meets the Honors Program's community service and "Honors Experience" requirements.

This Honors course fosters high-achieving students' growth towards learning outcomes such as: problem solving, often with creative approaches; critical reading, artistic literacy, or original data analysis; forming judgments based on evidence, often from alternative modes of inquiry or integrative learning; clear, persuasive research writing; oral presentation; and articulate reflection on personal growth. Honors courses are more likely to utilize student-driven active learning, emphasizing exploration and discovery, rather than the acquisition of specific knowledge; faculty might provide projects with no pre-determined conclusion, but with real-world application.

**REQUISITES:**

*Previous Course Requirements*

None

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

**COURSE COMMENT**

Students must be eligible to participate in the Honors Program or be eligible for membership in Phi Theta Kappa to register for this course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Identify local civic, and wider national and global issues.	Small group activities Course readings	Service Learning Exercise Service Learning Reflection
2. Develop an effective and efficient research strategy to locate multiple perspectives on the issue.	Library instruction day Research exercise discussions and journaling	Research Exercises
3. Critically evaluate multiple perspectives for factual information.	Small group activities Library instruction day Research exercise discussions and journaling	Research Exercises
4. Collaboratively synthesize a sustainable detailed action plan to resolve the identified issue.	Small group activities Lecture/discussion	Service Learning Exercise Service Learning Reflection
5. Collaborate with members of the College and other community organizations to sustainably fulfill the action plan.	Small group activities	Service Learning Exercise Service Learning Reflection
6. Reflect in writing on the effectiveness and learning of the project.	Small group activities	Service Learning Reflection
7. Use information ethically and legally, employing appropriate format and documentation to credit sources. [Automatic XF for non-compliance with the College's student conduct policies.]	Small group activities Library instruction day	Research Exercises Service Learning Exercise Service Learning Reflection

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

## SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Course Introduction
2. Topic Introduction
3. Sustainability
4. Introduction to Library Research
5. Creating an Annotated Bibliography and Crediting Sources
6. Topic from the perspective of the Arts and Humanities
7. Topic from the perspective of the Natural Sciences
8. Topic from the perspective of the Social Sciences
9. Topic from the perspective of public and private administration
10. Selection of Topical Issue
11. Editing
12. Synthesizing a Solution
13. Introduction to Service Learning
14. Orientation to Service Learning Partner
15. Leadership Development
16. Service Activities
17. Reflection on Learning

## LEARNING MATERIALS:

Learning materials may be made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

## COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Samuel Clay Wallace  
 VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:  
 Dr. Victoria Bastecki-Perez

Date: 2/26/2016

Date: 3/1/2016

Revised by: Samuel Clay Wallace  
 VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:  
 Dr. Victoria Bastecki-Perez

Date: 4/6/2017

Date: 4/14/2017

*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*