

# THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

This fall, DBU will begin its first undergraduate honors program. For the past two years, DBU President Dr. Gary Cook, DBU Provost Dr. Gail Linam, and the Honors Program Study Committee, led by Professor of English Dr. Deborah McCollister and composed of University professors from various disciplines, worked to build a program that would challenge academically gifted students who choose to come to DBU. Throughout the spring semester, Dr. Mike Williams, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, served as interim director of the program during this crucial planning stage. This fall, the University Honors Program will officially open its doors to DBU students under the leadership of Dr. Philip Mitchell, Assistant Professor of English.

The University Honors Program at DBU is a 30-hour program designed to help students make connections between academic disciplines and to encourage a high level of critical thinking and independent learning. Dedicated to grounding its curriculum in a biblical worldview, the program seeks to familiarize its students with the full 2000 years of Christian tradition and to make them more deeply aware of the moral resources that a good education requires.

The program is open to all majors, and every effort will be made to work with students to adapt the program to their major degree plan. The University Honors Program curriculum supplements and complements the traditional curriculum of Dallas Baptist University. Components of the curriculum include honors sections of general studies classes, an honors section of the "Developing a Christian Mind" course for freshman students, an interdisciplinary "Perspectives Honors" core curriculum, honors sections of upper-level discipline-specific courses, directed readings courses, and a senior thesis or project.

In addition, the University Honors Program will partner with the Paideia College Society, an eight-year-old organization founded and led by DBU Professor of Philosophy Dr. David Naugle, to offer an annual faculty/student fall study retreat, as well as an annual spring conference. Guest lectures by noted Christian scholars, a weekly worldview symposium, and involvement in local cultural events are other important ways that the program will strive to build a strong learning community of faculty and students, as well as provide opportunities to build friendships. During the 2007 fall break, the University Honors Program will sponsor its first Honors Study Abroad Program in London. Open to sophomores and upperclassmen of proven merit, the course will be taught by Dr. Deborah McCollister.

More information about the University Honors Program, including financial aid information and online applications, is available at [www.dbu.edu/honors](http://www.dbu.edu/honors), or you may call the University Honors Program Office at 214-333-5526.



*Dr. Philip Mitchell, Director of the University Honors Program, has been a member of the DBU English faculty since 2000. He is a DBU alumnus and received an M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Baylor University.*