

# Hellenic College Honors Program Application

Students who are admitted to the Honors Program at Hellenic College enjoy an unparalleled experience of intellectual stimulation and camaraderie with their classmates and instructors. Applicants must be open to diverse interests, talents, perspectives, and share curiosity as well as a desire to learn. Applicants must also have a 3.5 GPA. They are chosen for their academic accomplishments, motivation to excel, and intellectual curiosity. Successful applicants will demonstrate these characteristics on the basis of their academic records, standardized test scores, writing skills and projects of creativity. An interview with members of the Honor Committee may also be required.

## SECTION ONE:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

High School or College Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

High School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ College GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ College Credits Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT/ACT Scores: \_\_\_\_\_ College Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Publications, Research, Special Projects:  
(Please attach additional information as necessary)

## SECTION TWO:

Please submit an original graded paper, approximately five to ten pages in length.

## SECTION THREE:

Please submit an essay on one of the following topics, approximately three pages in length:

1. *Work does not 'give' dignity to our lives through the excellence or happiness it fosters. The dignity of work comes less from its ideal promise than from the way we show, though it, a determination to endure what is difficult for the sake of discharging our responsibilities and contributing to society.*

*Just Work* by Russell Muirhead; Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, (2004).

Describe how you envision your current and/or future work – which includes academic work, volunteer experiences, and/or paid employment – as a vehicle for discharging your responsibilities as a contributing member of society.

2. *We never get to the bottom of ourselves on our own. We discover who we are face to face and side by side with others in work, love, and learning. All our activity goes on in relationships, groups, associations, and communities ordered by institutional structures and interpreted by cultural patterns of meaning.*

*Habits of the Heart: Individual and Commitment in American Life* by Robert N. Bellah, Richard Madsen, William M. Sullivan, Ann Swidler, & Steven M. Tipton, NY: Harper & Row Publishers (1985).

Comment on the above passage explaining how you think human beings come to know themselves through their relationships with other people – both the people in their daily lives and the millions of people living throughout the world who they may never meet.

3. There are some that believe that essentially people are the same wherever you go regardless of the language they speak; the societies and geographical area in which they live; and the meanings they attribute to issues like God, religion, life, death, peace, war, gender, race, culture, ethnicity, etc. Do you agree or disagree? Explain your point of view.
4. *In the attitude of silence, the soul finds the path in a clearer light, and what is elusive and deceptive resolves into crystal clearness. Our life is a long and arduous quest after Truth.*  
-- Mahatma Gandhi

Discuss your understanding of this quote, addressing the relationship between spiritual and intellectual knowing as it relates to purpose in your life.

5. <sup>1</sup> *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.* <sup>2</sup> *And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing...Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful;* <sup>5</sup> *it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;* <sup>6</sup> *it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.* <sup>7</sup> *Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.* <sup>8</sup> *Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away...So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*  
-- I Corinthians 13:1-8

Many college brochures suggest that academic achievement and professional success lead to personal fulfillment, but this passage from Scripture urges personal sacrifice for others as the way to contentment and happiness. Are excellence and sacrifice mutually exclusive? How do you propose to reconcile the tensions they involve in your own studies and career choices?