Margaret E. & Thomas R. Meehan

Honors College Course Development Grants

2023-2024 Application

These grants are intended to support the development of **new** experiential learning opportunities that will be substantial components of new or revised honors courses. These grants can cover a variety of expenses, including equipment, materials, travel, student scholarships, and faculty time spent developing the experiential learning opportunity (as award pay). Grant funds must be expended by the end of the 2023-24 academic year and cannot be transferred to another fund or index. The Honors College will coordinate all expenditures, and awarded budget cannot be transferred to different or new purposes without our prior approval. Only expenses in direct support of the proposed project/learning opportunity are eligible, and any unspent funds will remain with the Honors College to support future awards.

The Honors College defines experiential learning as involving learners in direct experiences followed by focused reflection with the aims of increasing and integrating knowledge, developing skills, and connecting to the world in meaningful ways.  The direct experiences may involve the active creation of art or knowledge, the practical application of skills to significant problems, and/or engaged learning with local and global communities and cultures.  Like other honors pedagogical approaches, experiential learning is high-impact, interactive, and transformative.

Previously funded projects have included:

* A colloquium on bats in which students collect bat echolocation signatures at their residences and perform initial pattern-level/descriptive analysis of their own data. The grant supported the purchase of the Wildlife Acoustics EchoMeters for the students’ use.
* A colloquium called “Re-engineering the Human Body Using Robotics”; the funds were used to purchase motors and connectors, and for 3D printing.
* A colloquium in which students research topics related to gender and sexuality at archives in Corvallis, Eugene, and Portland, maintaining a weekly reflective journal as they curate a collaborative exhibit for a public audience.
* A colloquium in which students learn about “enchanted objects” from a multidisciplinary perspective and then design and create their own, documenting their process as well as the performance of their object in a YouTube video.
* The purchase of a Printed Circuit Board fabricator in order to integrate hands-on learning into two different honors engineering courses, giving students the chance to reflect on lessons learned through the design process.

**Important**: If your Meehan application is in support of a colloquium that you would like to teach in 2023-24, **you must also fill out a colloquium proposal form**, here: <https://honors.oregonstate.edu/webform/hc-colloquium-proposal> Colloquia proposals and Meehan grant proposals are both due on January 15 at 5pm. If you are interested in teaching an honors section of an existing course, or some other course that is not a colloquium, please email Associate Dean Susan Rodgers at [susan.rodgers@oregonstate.edu](mailto:susan.rodgers@oregonstate.edu).

**Course number and title** **(colloquia are either HC 407, capped at 12 students, or HC 299, capped at 20):**

**Course description**:

**Please describe the experiential learning component(s) of the course**.

**What activities will you use to encourage student reflection on the experiences?**

**How will you assess whether the experiential learning component has been successful or impactful?**

**Please attach an Excel spreadsheet or table outlining your requested budget ($500-$3000) with a rationale for each element (including specific quotes for materials/equipment, tasks that would justify any requested professional development funds, etc.)**.

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**Faculty Signature Academic Unit Head Signature\***

**\*Please note: because honors courses are offered in partnership with academic units, applications without the unit head’s signature cannot be considered.**

Completed application forms should be emailed to [susan.rodgers@oregonstate.edu](mailto:susan.rodgers@oregonstate.edu) by 5pm on January 15 with **Meehan Proposal 2023 – [applicant’s last name]** in the subject line.

The Meehan Grant Proposal review committee will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

* Is the experiential learning component significant and compelling?
* Is the plan for implementation thoughtful and comprehensive?
* How broadly or deeply will this experience impact students?

Priority may be given to proposals that establish a sustainable model over those that support a one-time opportunity.