



Winter 2024

HONORS COLLEGE

Tarleton State University



Fall 2023 Research Showcase

By the numbers:

- 89 Fall graduates
- 327 students had 4.0 GPA Fall 2023
- 64% have TSU GPA 3.5 or better
- 114 Honors contracts completed

HIGHLIGHTS

We welcomed over 350 new students to the Honors College in the Fall, and they had an excellent semester, with an average GPA of 3.49, with 105 of them making a 4.0 in their first semester at Tarleton. They combined forces with their returning colleagues to have an outstanding 327 of our Honors students who had a 4.0 in the Fall. Over 64% of our Honors students have a GPA of 3.5 or better. Our students are leading the way academically!

We implemented an Honors thesis to showcase the excellent research our students are producing. We had our first thesis completed in Fall 2023. Bella Zapata defended her Honors thesis entitled "Closed-form methods for

estimating parameters of response time models." We currently have 5 students who are scheduled to defend their thesis this spring on a wide range of topics.

In addition, we had over 100 students who completed an Honors contract in one of their upper level courses, demonstrating that our Honors students are at the forefront of groundbreaking research, contributing significantly to the academic landscape across various disciplines. These dedicated scholars continue to engage in rigorous and specialized projects that showcase their intellectual curiosity, creativity, and commitment to advancing knowledge. From the sciences to the humanities, our Honors students explore topics that push the boundaries of existing understanding. Their research involves collaboration with esteemed faculty members and other experts in the field that help to empower them to explore new frontiers within their chosen fields.

Research

The impact of our Honors students' research extends beyond the academic realm, influencing industry practices, policy decisions, and societal perspectives. Their work contributes to the advancement of knowledge and the enhancement of our understanding of the world. As they navigate the complexities of their research projects, Honors students also develop crucial skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication. These skills not only benefit them in their academic pursuits but also prepare them for successful careers in various fields. In essence, the great research undertaken by Honors students is a testament to the power of intellectual curiosity and the potential for transformative discoveries that emerge from dedicated exploration and inquiry.

One of our students is utilizing econometrics to investigate strategies for low-income countries to safeguard against economic shocks and promote sustainable development. In the veterinary field, students are conducting research on the effects of hemp seed oil on mares, measuring changes in blood glucose levels. Another unique project aims to enhance pepper taste and flavor through cross-breeding and grafting, involving the establishment of a spiciness scale and the exploration of cost-effective methods for achieving desired traits. Investigating plant-based polymers as an environmentally friendly solution for lithium removal is also underway. On the cultural front, a research project is analyzing the conversation of Polish identity in the United States and beyond, while another delves into the medieval Islamic philosopher Al-Farabi's Philosophy of Society and Religion and its influence on modern Islamic liberalism. Other studies include the impact of music on children's learning abilities, socioemotional development in middle childhood, and the phenomenon of college students using stimulants to prepare for exams. These diverse research endeavors showcase the depth and breadth of our Honors students' intellectual pursuits.

Study Abroad

We have 13 Honors students who will be studying the Italian Renaissance in Urbino Italy this coming summer. We are partnering with groups from Psychology and Early Childhood Education who will be in Urbino along with us. Follow our trip on Facebook or Instagram!



Urbino, Summer 2023

Upcoming Dates

April 20 - Honors Parents Day/Spring Football Game - "Kickoff" to Honors Week

April 22&23 - Honors Research Showcase

April 24 - Honors Artist Showcase

April 26 - Night in Urbino

May 4 - Spring Graduation Reception

Support the Honors College

You can support our current students in a variety of ways. Some options include:

- Internship/Shadowing opportunities
- Networking opportunities (on-campus or on-location)
- Donate to the Dean's Circle or to support Study Abroad opportunities

Visit

www.tarleton.edu/honors/honors-college-giving
to donate today!