

The Honorable Mention

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Capital University Honors Program

Join Honors for The Short North's Gallery Hop

By Andrew Schmidt

2009 marks the 25th year for the monthly art extravaganza in the Short North. Every first Saturday of the month, over 40 galleries, restaurants, and specialty shops open their doors to thousands of visitors. The streets of the Short North become packed with art enthusiasts, street performers of all kinds, and people just looking for a good time.

Tavern Night in the Mezz



By Ross Goldsmith

Capital University Student Government leaders were able to begin a pilot program of serving alcohol every other Thursday in the Mezz for the remainder of the semester. There will be live entertainment, pool tables, and great atmosphere in the newly renovated Mezz. Come take advantage! 7:30pm-10:30pm.

Live band. \$2 bottles. Free samples of the new menu in the Mezz.

Stress Reliever Night!

By Sarah Malone

Stressed out with midterms, projects and presentations? Or do you just need something fun to do? Take a break and join us at the Honors House for a fun-filled evening on Tuesday, October 13 from 6:30-8:30. There will be coloring books, music, cards, hot apple cider and delicious treats for all. Come over and have some fun and a laugh with friends!

Capital University Honors

We are located at:
2373 East Mound Street,
On the corner of Francis and Mound, across from the
Capital Center.

Phone: 614-338-8104

Whether you are serious about your art or just want to try something different on a Saturday night, Gallery Hop caters to everyone. It officially runs from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM, but the restaurants and bars stay open much later. Come join us for the next one on November 7! Please RSVP to Andrew Schmidt at aschmid2@capital.edu so transportation to the event can be arranged.

Pumpkin Painting

By Heid Bretz



Join us for a ghoulishly good time at the Honors House on Monday, October 26 at 7:00 for pumpkin painting, snacks, and a

movie! We will be watching *Hocus Pocus* and gobbling ghostly goodies while we paint our pumpkins. Make sure to bring a friend and celebrate Halloween with us!

Honors Board Game Night!

By Janelle Homier

Bored? Need a break from studying? Well Thursday, November 5, the Honors Council is holding a game night with a variety of board games and some snacks. If you have a favorite game, feel free to bring your own, but there will be a few provided such as Scrabble, Apples to Apples, Clue, and Mancala. Bring a couple friends and enjoy a night of food and fun! The time will be announced at a later date.



Join Us for A Haunted Night!

By: Sarah Ferris

Halloween is getting closer, which means the haunted houses will soon be open! Are you looking for a good scare this year? Join the Honors Council Friday, October 23, on our trip to a local Haunted House. (TBA) We will be meeting at the Honors House around 7:00pm to carpool. If interested, please RSVP through email sferris@capital.edu. If you can drive, please let us know.

Choosing a Major: Tips from Dr. Baker

At this time of year many students choose a major. If you have not decided on your major yet, how do you select one? There are many questions to consider and no simple answers. Most students begin by asking: What do I enjoy? This makes sense. You do not want to get stuck doing something that you do not like. But consider carefully whether your enjoyment will continue. Often students are impressed by a professor's knowledge or personality and choose to take more courses with that professor. This is inevitable. However, try to remember that your major will be there when the professor isn't. It's *your* major. Talk with more than one professor. Talk with your family and friends. Go online and research what happens to people with majors in areas that interest you. Look at all the opportunities, including further study.

We all enjoy doing well, but it is probably not a good idea to choose a major on that basis alone. If it's easy for you, is it easy for others? Will your choices be respected by people who look at your qualifications? Does choosing the easy option stimulate your development and add to your knowledge? Although it might take more work, taking challenging courses and risking a slightly lower GPA may

well be more sensible than looking for the easiest way through.

Consider how you might distinguish yourself. For example, can you pursue study abroad? Is a double major possible? Again, don't jump at the easy option. If you can combine two very different areas, such as mathematics and art, you will demonstrate much greater flexibility than someone who has two majors with very similar content and methodology. Students often "pick up" a second major in a similar area by double counting courses. What is the point? Does adding a second major in virtually the same area really show additional knowledge?

If you have already decided on a career that requires a particular undergraduate degree, your choice of major is given, but that does not mean that all the choices have been made. You can still differentiate yourself. You may be able add courses in another area (such as a foreign language), even if you can't double major. Perhaps you can add a minor. Do what you can do, not just what you have to do. And if a possible major requires so many hours that it stops you pursuing other options, think carefully about whether the major is really what you want or need.

If you have not decided what you would like to do, keep your options open. While considering different majors, try to make sure that you have the foundation courses needed so that you don't

inadvertently remove an option. Find out if a graduate degree is required to succeed with the major you have chosen; look at grad school requirements online.

Finally, don't panic. You may have to do some more work, but educational opportunities do not end with the declaration of a major. You can change your mind. When you graduate, no matter what your major, if you are a good student you will find plenty of graduate programs from which to choose. You will also have plenty of employment choices because most positions involve some training, and most people will change their careers. Your major is important, but it is only part of what determines your future.



The Four-year Plan

The Honors Program has folders to help students plan their academic careers. I distributed these in first-year classes at the beginning of the semester. Some students have dropped in for help. Others have completed the plans with the help of advisers or other students. It's worth doing. The process has helped some students avoid problems that would have prevented study abroad or a second major. If you haven't done a plan yet, please stop by the house and pick up a folder. It's your future!

Honors House Office Hours:
 Monday 9:00-12:00
 Tuesday 9:00-11:00 12:30-2:00
 Wednesday 9:00-3:00
 Thursday 9:00-11:00 12:30-2:00
 Dr. Baker's Office Hours:
 Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-1:30
 Wednesday 10:00-11:00

Honors 310 and 410 Information

A note from Dr. Baker on the Honors Program's thesis requirement and study abroad.

Graduating from the Honors Program entails writing a thesis proposal (Hons 310) and a senior thesis (Hons 410). The first step towards this goal is Hons 310 in which students develop a proposal for a senior project. Important - you do not have to wait until your senior year to take Hons 310 and Hons 410. Usually, the best time for 310 is the spring of the junior year or the fall of the senior year. It is best to take 410 the following semester. (You may be able to use study abroad to satisfy these requirements, see below.)

Honors 310

The goals of Hons 310 are to identify a topic, an appropriate faculty member who will supervise the project, and to conduct and document a review of appropriate relevant literature.

I suggest that if you would like to pursue Hons 310 you do not register for the class until you have some idea of what you want to do. Discuss possible ideas with your adviser and professors. We can add the course credit later in the semester when you are sure that you have something feasible. Please contact me for a copy of the Hons 310 syllabus if you are interested in completing an honors project.

What may be used as an Honors 410 project?

The Honors Program seeks to foster a love of learning. The capstone project, Hons 410, is a chance to examine a topic in greater depth than is possible in a major. Topics are not assigned to students. It is expected that during their studies, honors students will have developed an interest in one or more suitable topics. Students choose from the topics in which they are interested in consultation with appropriate faculty members. The topic may be within a major or across disciplines, i.e., the project should be designed to demonstrate the student's ability to think critically within a particular discipline or across disciplines.

Practical projects

In general, projects where the main outcome is practical experience, such as organizing events or work experience,

are not acceptable for Hons 410. Such experiences may be useful, and they may be valuable internship possibilities, but practical experience does not satisfy the requirement that a student engage in academic research and demonstrate critical thinking skills.

Course based research

Some courses that are part of your major include a research component. In general these courses do not satisfy the research requirements for Hons 410. The Honors Faculty Council believes that Hons 410 should go "above and beyond" what is normally expected as part of a major.

If you choose to build on past research, you must submit the past research project with your Hons 310 proposal. You should clearly document the research completed so far and describe how the new research would differ and extend past work. Submitting the same work for additional credit would be a clear violation of academic integrity, so this is not a path that is recommended.

Students who are already conducting research as part of their majors need not necessarily complete an additional honors thesis. Students may be able to use a research project for a major as a substitute for the honors thesis requirement provided that the project satisfies the requirements for an honors thesis. Please note that if you do this you would receive a waiver from the honors thesis requirement - you would not receive additional course credits. You can only receive course credit once for each project. It is possible that you might not need to submit an Hons 310 proposal if you are using research in the major to satisfy the Hons 410 requirement. However, you will need to substitute an alternative honors experience (for Hons 310) to meet the graduation requirements for the program.

The bibliography

A student is expected to demonstrate that he/she has thought deeply about the topic and considered different viewpoints. This is why an annotated bibliography is a required part of the Hons 310 proposal. You should identify 20 - 30 sources that will provide the background and

(Continued on page 4)

Mission Statement and Goals

The Honors Program is committed to learning and Excellence. Below is the Program's Mission Statement and the Goals. If you have some suggestions about how we can achieve them, please contact Dr. Baker or any member of the Honors Council.

Honors Program Mission Statement

By providing a unique learning experience in an intellectually nurturing climate, the Honors Program challenges

students to become independent thinkers. Exceptional students who value academic excellence and the opportunity to be challenged inside and outside the classroom participate in Capital University's Honors Program.

Honors Program Goals

Students who participate in the Honors Program will cultivate their ability to question, analyze and exchange ideas. Students will also be encouraged to evaluate their own beliefs and develop their love of learning.

What Are You Watching?

“9” Scores a 6

By Heidi Bretz

Currently showing on the big screen, “9” tells the story of nine mechanical creations struggling to survive in a world where humanity has been destroyed by robots. 9, the principle character, awakens in an empty room, puzzled at the apparent lack of life in his surroundings. Not long after he ventures outside, he meets several of the other creations, most creatively named 1-8, and comes face to face with their dreaded archenemy, The Beast. In attempting to rescue one of their comrades from its jaws, 9 and his companions awaken an evil that could destroy them all.

Although 9’s efforts to rescue his friends from the jaws of the machines which threaten their existence are heroic, I found the plot to be poorly developed. The

viewer is kept waiting throughout the entire movie for the reason for the existence of the “sack folk,” as reviewer The Dude so charmingly labeled them in his own review of the film on moviesonline.ca. The ending, which left the viewer with no answers to speak of, was an interesting blend of hope, loss, and disappointment on the behalf of the audience. Perhaps 9’s journey to discover the purpose of his existence smacks slightly of an existentialist pursuit of oneself, yet the viewer finds the amount of self-revelation portrayed in the film to be surprisingly lacking. The story had great potential, but ended up succumbing to the tragic death of under-development.

Not to be completely critical, the graphics were breathtaking, creating a computer-animated view of a post-apocalyptic world. The film was a feast for the eyes, if not for the mind. Overall, I would give this movie a 6 out of 10. Long story short: wait for it to come out on video.

Honors 310 and 410 Information Continued

rationale for your proposal. These sources should be academic (e.g., professional journals, textbooks, works of art, musical scores, anthologies, laboratory manuals, etc.). You must provide a rationale for including popular press sources or other non-academic sources. For each source you should include a short paragraph summarizing the main points of the source. The sources should be cited using an appropriate method (e.g., MLA, Chicago, or APA). You should identify the method that you are using and attempt to be consistent in its use.

Identify an adviser

Students are also expected to identify an adviser as part of the 310 proposal, but this faculty member is only expected to give broad advice, not provide explicit guidelines. The honors project should be an example of independent academic work. The adviser need not necessarily be in the area of your major, but note that the project should have a firm grounding in one or more academic disciplines.

Study abroad

You may be able to fulfill an honors experience while doing so. Here is the policy.

Students have a choice: Exemption from Honors 310 and

410 without university credit.

Before you go document your choice. When you return, provide a summary (three to five pages) documenting what you learned. For this you would receive an exemption from Hons 410. To graduate with honors you need a total of six honors experiences. This would count as one of those but would not earn university credit.

2) Exemption from Honors 310, 410 with university credit.

Before you go, you may choose to register for Honors 310 and receive one hour of university credit (which would also count as one honors experience) if you complete the Honors 310 proposal, with the study abroad effectively being the project. (The logic for allowing 310 for credit is that a student will learn by preparing a 310 proposal prior to studying abroad.)

To receive university credit for Hons 410 you would prepare an extensive project based on your experience. This would follow the general guidelines for Hons 410, count as one honors experience, and would normally be worth three credits. The credit is based on the thesis not the study abroad per se.

If you notice a mistake in this newsletter, please let an Honors Program representative know by calling: **614-338-8104**

Do you have a movie or book review?
Please submit them to the Honors Council.