In 1966 Andrews University determined to offer undergraduate students greater opportunities for intellectual, spiritual, and social development. To reach this goal, it created the honors program to foster an atmosphere that is both intellectually challenging and distinctively Christian.

Starting in 2001–02, the program offered a completely new curriculum. SAGES is a text-based alternative to the standard General Education requirements. It involves 37 semester hours of honors courses and leads to the designation “John Nevins Andrews Scholar” at graduation.

SAGES (Scholars’ Alternative General Education Studies)
Reflecting suggestions from students, faculty and alumni for a curriculum based on the study of original texts, independent research, and writing, SAGES provides a series of interdisciplinary courses that REPLACE General Education requirements for the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees. Following a year-long introduction to Western civilization and culture, students pursue a series of thematically-organized seminars similar to a “Great Books” approach, though broader in sources and subjects. The track concludes with independent research resulting in a senior project.

Because SAGES replaces many lower-division courses, admission at the beginning of a college career is advisable. However, transfer and currently enrolled students with demonstrated academic achievement (GPA>3.33) may apply to SAGES and receive individual waivers for some—but not necessarily all—specific courses based on previous academic study. Those admitted as juniors and seniors must complete at least five seminars plus the Research Pro-Seminar and the senior project.

Students wishing to transfer out of SAGES should do so at the end of the first year and apply the courses taken towards a standard General Education track. In the sophomore and junior years, SAGES involves significantly different categories of courses than the standard General Education track. These will not replace many of the freshman and sophomore courses required at most universities.

Progress in SAGES. Students in SAGES who fail to enroll in honors courses, or whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.33, will be asked to withdraw from the program at the end of the academic year.

Graduation as a John Nevins Andrews Honors Scholar
At graduation, the university confers the distinction “John Nevins Andrews Scholar” on students recommended by the Honors Council who display outstanding scholarship, achieve a minimum overall college and honors GPA of 3.50, and complete SAGES. Titles of the senior thesis or project are listed in the graduation bulletin.

### GE Requirements: SAGES Honors Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Registrations</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HONS105 Western Heritage I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS106 Western Heritage II</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS115 Transcribing the Self: Honors Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS215 Scripture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS265 Literature and the Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS345 What Is “Other”? The Non-Western World</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS365 Cosmos</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS398 Research Pro-Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS415 Thinking Theologically: Christian Life and Faith</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONS497 Senior Honors Project</td>
<td>min. 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plus two courses selected from the following:**

- HONS225 Materialism and Idealism (3)
- HONS245 Meanings of America (3)
- HONS325 Justice (3)
- HONS380 Topics in ______ (as offered)

**Total Requirements, Bachelor of Science**

50

**Total Requirements, Bachelor of Arts**

50+4

These requirements have been altered slightly for students in some of the professional degree programs (see below).

### GE Requirements: Professional Degree Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Alteration in SAGES</th>
<th>Other Reductions + Cognates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSA</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 elective (3 cr) Reduced HONS365</td>
<td>Math increased—4 cr Science reduced—one course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBA</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 elective (3 cr) Reduced HONS365</td>
<td>Math increased—6 cr Science reduced—one course Required: RELT390 PSYC101 &amp; SOCI119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSMLS</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 elective</td>
<td>Requires: PSYC101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHS</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 science course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFA</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 science course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMus</td>
<td>Reduced by 1 science course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the Honors Office and on the Honors website. B+ average on all college courses. Application forms are available in
applicants demonstrate an interest in Honors and possess at least a
transfer students who wish to participate in the program. Successful
Applications are welcomed from currently enrolled students and
be admitted to the program upon the director's discretion.

show considerable promise on one measure but not the other may
for academic success in college, a small number of students who
standardized test scores may not satisfactorily predict the potential

• \( \text{Scores of 25 on the ACT or 1200 on the SAT mathematics and} \)

Andrews Honors program.

Society of Andrews Scholars, is required to continue in the J. N.
application process are used exclusively for student activities
motto. Membership fees and fees charged as part of the honors
society of andrews scholars

Students accepted into honors surpass the following
benefit from participation in SAGES.

portrayed in part by the application essay—suggest they will

Each summer the honors program admits a limited number of
admission to The Honors Program

students' schedules for cognate courses and electives.

identical courses and foreign language proficiency. In each case,
the normal requirements are significantly reduced, which frees
students' schedules for cognate courses and electives.

Admission to The Honors Program
Each summer the honors program admits a limited number of
prospective freshmen whose interests and achievements—as
portrayed in part by the application essay—suggest they will
benefit from participation in SAGES.

Students accepted into honors surpass the following
qualifications:
• A minimum overall GPA of 3.50 on all secondary credits
• Scores of 25 on the ACT or 1200 on the SAT mathematics and
verbal sections combined.

Recognizing that for some students either high school grades or
standardized test scores may not satisfactorily predict the potential
for academic success in college, a small number of students who
show considerable promise on one measure but not the other may
be admitted to the program upon the director's discretion.

Admission for Transfer and Currently Enrolled Students
Applications are welcomed from currently enrolled students and
transfer students who wish to participate in the program. Successful
applicants demonstrate an interest in Honors and possess at least a
B+ average on all college courses. Application forms are available in
the Honors Office and on the Honors website.

Society of Andrews Scholars
Students in Honors form a society dedicated to spiritual,
social, and intellectual activities outside the classroom. The
society’s logo depicts hands sheltering the flame of truth, which
symbolizes the search for truth by students and faculty
together. Excellence, Commitment, and Service is the society’s
motto. Membership fees and fees charged as part of the honors
application process are used exclusively for student activities
by the Society of Andrews Scholars. Annual participation in the
service/citizenship/leadership program which is organized by the
Society of Andrews Scholars, is required to continue in the J. N.
Andrews Honors program.

National Honors Societies
The honors program works with the university’s 17 departmental
national honor societies to coordinate information and enhance
their activities. It also works closely with the prestigious
interdisciplinary national honor society Phi Kappa Phi which
inducts about 30 junior and senior Andrews students each year
who meet the rigorous requirements. See Appendix, p. 423.

Graduation Distinctions
Designations are conferred at graduation on students who, one
semester before graduation, have completed 16 semester hours at
Andrews University with the following overall GPAs:
3.500–3.749 Cum Laude
3.750–3.899 Magna Cum Laude
3.900–4.000 Summa Cum Laude

Both the Andrews and Cumulative GPAs must be a minimum of
3.50 in order to be considered for the above designations.

Honors Audits
To enhance Andrews Scholars’ opportunities to learn for the
sake of learning, a scholar enrolled full time (a minimum of
12 regular credits) may attend one course free each semester,
registering as an Honors Audit (HN), which is indicated on the
transcript. Though no credit is earned, an Honors Audit provides
a significant opportunity to broaden one’s knowledge at no cost
even if it forms an overload. Registration for an Honors Audit
(HN) should take place during regular registration, and in no
case later than the regular drop/add date. Attendance and other
regulations for an audit apply.

Courses
The inside front cover gives the symbol code.

HONS105, 106
(5, 5)
Western Heritage
A study of significant issues that emerged in Western civilization,
approached through the reading of major works. The first
semester’s topics involve the era from the ancient world to the
Reformation; the second, the Enlightenment to the modern world.
In both semesters, spiritual and religious themes are emphasized,
and the combined semesters replace one 3-credit religion course.
Small-group projects and discussions, field trips, and cultural
events enrich the lectures. Required for SAGES during the first
year.

HONS115
Transcribing the Self: Honors Composition
What is the entity we call self? How is it formed, reformed,
transformed? What role does the “other” play in our
determination of self? To what extent is self an independent
construct, and to what extent is it socially and ideologically
determined? Such questions are addressed through written and
oral examination of our own lives and the lives of others as
presented in significant texts. Recommended during the first year.

HONS215
Scripture
The reading of Biblical passages chosen for qualities such as
centrality to Christian belief, power as literature, and variety
of expression. Entire books will be addressed thematically,
including Genesis, Job, Romans, and Revelation. A portion of
the course will involve the detailed interpretation of a selected
section. Required.
HONS225
Materialism & Idealism
Philosophers and prophets often approach wealth with caution or hostility, but modern culture flaunts status symbols and values self-worth by material accumulation. Considering such differences, readings from Plato to contemporary authors will raise questions about the level of wealth we ought to desire, the thoughtful use of that wealth, and reconciling a Christian life of service with professional success today. Elective.

HONS245
Meanings of America
Examines understandings of American society, culture and physical environment by a variety of observers, including native, foreign and minority, through study of prose, poetry, music, film and the visual arts. Core readings will include works by Jefferson, Tocqueville, Martineau, Douglass, Bourne, Friedan and King. Elective.

HONS265
Literature and the Arts
Explores the ways in which visual, musical, and literary arts address the human experience. Through close analysis of primary texts, students become conversant in the distinctive and overlapping discourses of the various art forms. Drawing upon this fine arts literacy, they will examine concerns of primary importance to creative minds from the ancient world to the postmodern era. These themes will include several of the following: the sacred, the quest for knowledge, gender relations, ethnicity and identity, social order and/or violence. Prerequisite: HONS115. Required.

HONS325
Justice
What is justice? Is it a process, an end result, or both? Using concepts of right and wrong developed by Classical writers, medieval philosophers and recent Christian theologians, this course considers the relationships between justice and religious understandings of human nature and society. It then analyzes selected policies where concepts of justice can or should play a role, and critically examines the practical results of attempts to create greater social justice. Prerequisite: HONS115. Elective. Alternate years (odd years).

HONS345
What Is “Other?” The Non-Western World
An introduction to the diversity and commonality of the global human experience and world views as expressed in literature, the arts, religion and other intellectual endeavors with special focus on the non-Western world. Small group activities, field trips, guest presenters, films and special projects enrich the discussion of significant texts. Prerequisite: HONS106, 115. Required.

HONS365
Cosmos
An interdisciplinary, readings-based course which considers the nature of science and its relationship to other approaches to truth. Selected “key ideas” in science will be examined to explore how science informs our understanding of who we are and our place in the universe. Particular attention will be given to the interplay between Christian faith and science. Prerequisite: HONS115. Required.

HONS380
Topics, Independent Study, and Research
Disciplinary and interdisciplinary topics selected for interest and importance. Typically the course revolves around reading, discussion, and individual projects. Repeatable as topics vary. Elective.

HONS380
Topic in Physics and Faith
An interdisciplinary readings-based course which considers the relationship between Christian faith and science. Developments in physics and cosmology will be examined in light of Adventist Christian theological understanding. Prerequisites: HONS365 and PHYS142, or consent of instructor. Elective.

HONS380
Topic in Cognitive Science and Faith
This topics course will be a readings-based seminar considering the possibility of integrating cognitive science (especially neuroscience and psychological science) and Christian faith in the domain of understanding human nature. The course will focus particularly on Adventist theological understandings of human nature in the context of ongoing debates about human free will in the cognitive sciences. Prerequisites: Elective.

HONS415
Thinking Theologically: Christian Life and Faith
A capstone Honors course exploring the intersection of constructive theology and contemporary issues from a distinctly Adventist perspective. Special attention is given to the correlation of God and human flourishing as enunciated through a wide range of pressing questions raised in the postmodern context. The aim of such an exploration is to deepen the faith of the participants and to instill a new appreciation for the conceptual and spiritual richness of the Great Controversy theme central to the Adventist worldview. Students are encouraged to foster critical reasoning and integrative thinking through a seminar-style engagement with selected primary texts in theology and philosophy. Prerequisites: HONS115, 215. Required.

HONS495
Independent Study (in any department)
Individual study or research of an approved topic under the guidance of an appropriate professor and resulting in an essay, critical review, or other gradable demonstration of accomplishment. Implies 45 hours of work per semester credit. Repeatable to 6 credits. Elective.

HONS380
Research Pro-Seminar
Preparation for the senior project. Expectations for the senior thesis are addressed, including consideration of alternative topics, refining the thesis proposal, the role of literature review, formal public speaking, presentation software, and evaluation. The letter grade assigned reflects the presentation of the project at the Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar; a DG is assigned until then. Required for all juniors.

HONS497
Senior Honors Project
Independent research or creative work to produce the Honors Thesis, typically supervised by a professor within the student’s major field. The thesis is filed in the James White Library to facilitate wider access. Required.