

Why Honors?

When I attended my first tour at Minnesota State Mankato, I was introduced to the Honors Program. At the time I didn't know much about what the program consisted of, but it interested me. In high school I was involved in several clubs and organizations, and I wanted to continue to find ways to stay involved in college. A few months later I applied to MNSU, Mankato. I began receiving emails about the honors program and I wanted to learn more about it. I attended the information night, but I was hesitant to join as I only had around 2 years left to complete my major and I wasn't sure if I would have enough time to complete the program. I reached out to the honors staff, and they assured me that I would be able to complete the program within 2 years. I made my decision to join the honors program before the deadline and enrolled in HONR 201 when I registered for classes.

I ultimately chose honors to get involved at MNSU and to make the most out of my college experience. I was intimidated to start joining organizations but after learning about what the honors program stood for, I was eager to join. I think that the program will push me out of my comfort zone as well. I hope that I will be able to make connections with people in the honors program and make better connections with the faculty in the program. I hope that honors will also help me find ways to get involved on campus as well. I initially liked how honors focused on the 3 competencies to broaden the experiences that we will be taking part in. I believe that it is important to take part in all the opportunities that are given to me. In high school I was a full-time PSEO student and received my Associates of Arts degree during my Junior and Senior years. I feel that the honors program will also push me to excel in my academic career like PSEO was able to.

Not only did I choose honors for the social aspect, but I also wanted to improve my professional skills. I am hopeful that the program will broaden my leadership skills. I eventually would like to be in a career where I have a managerial position and being equipped with good leadership skills is a must. I think that the honors program will prepare me for my future career endeavors, as well as a way for future employers to get a sense of who I am in both my personal and professional life. Creating the professional portfolio in my time during honors will also serve as an asset for future employers. I am hoping that through the Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity Competency I will be able to research alongside a faculty member in the Business Major. I also liked how the competency of Intercultural Engagement was included, and I would like to enhance my experiences in this area as I currently don't have many.

Overall, I hope to gain a lot out of this program, and I plan on putting in the hard work that it requires. I'm excited for the character development that I will learn out of each of the experiences.