



THOMAS MORE  
UNIVERSITY

# James Graham Brown Honors Program And Scholarship Information/Application Sheet

High school seniors of exceptional academic ability are eligible to apply for admission to the James Graham Brown Honors Program. Students accepted into the Honors Program will participate in a special program of Honors Seminars, Community Experience, and have the opportunity for advanced research (a Fellowship) in their majors under the direction of Honors professors. This small program not only enhances the educational experience of academically superior students, but it also provides Honors students with exceptional college credentials for future experiences or graduate school opportunities.

Interested students may obtain an application form from Justin Vogel, Director of Admissions, [vogelc@thomasmore.edu](mailto:vogelc@thomasmore.edu), 859-344-3307 or online at [http://www.thomasmore.edu/PDFs/jgb\\_app.pdf](http://www.thomasmore.edu/PDFs/jgb_app.pdf)

## Eligibility

Minimum qualifications to be considered for the Honors Program are:

- Acceptance to Thomas More University;
- ACT score of 28 or SAT score of 1300 (Composite) ;
- Cumulative GPA of 3.6;
- Completed application (see form below) which includes:
  - three letters of recommendation (attesting to academic merit and character);
  - written essay;
  - resume highlighting community service.
- Completed and filed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) by 14 January 2019.

For all finalists, an on-campus interview will be conducted on Friday 15 February 2019. The Honors Committee selects students who show the highest scholastic ability based on the above, as well as outstanding character and personal qualities that enhance the Honors Program.

To fulfill Honors commitment, students must register each semester for a minimum of 15 credits, while enrolled in the Honors Seminar (3 credits) or pursuing Community Service or Internship or Fellowship. In the first semester of the first year, FYS is taken in lieu of the Seminar. Students are accepted into the program at the Scholars level. Students must also maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better (rounding up is not permitted).

Honors students must maintain a high quality of performance in written and verbal expression, and critical judgment in all areas of the Honors Program. Students who do not maintain quality performance or exhibit major deficiencies of character will be removed from the program, subject to the appeal procedures of the University.

# THE HONORS PROGRAM

## Thomas More Scholars

Honors students are initially appointed as Honors Scholars. During this period of the program students must fulfill an Honors Program commitment every semester and complete the minimum requirements of two Honors Seminars and one full year (90 hours) of Community Service. Every student must complete a Seminar or Service or Internship as detailed below.

Community Experience is a social service program aligned with the University's service learning mission. The Honors Program has a Tutoring/Mentoring Program in conjunction with nearby schools, but other Community Service options are available through other Departments. Community Service is possible concurrently with the Honors seminar or Fellowship.

Brown Honors Program students will be expected to participate in all Honors Program activities such as a welcome luncheon, the fall and spring retreats, leadership workshops, lectures, and cultural events.

Thomas More Scholars must complete at least two Honors seminars and an approved Community Service experience (3 credits) and have finished the junior year as minimum requirements for advancement to the optional Fellowship level of the program.

## Thomas More Fellows

During the second semester of the junior year, Scholars who have completed the minimum requirements of the Scholar's level (two Honors seminars and one Community Experience) have the option to apply for appointment during their senior year as a Thomas More Fellow. Fellows do not take Honors Seminars or Community Experience, but instead undertake special Honors research in their majors. This senior Honors research must consist of a two semester three credit project approved both by the Honors Committee and by the Fellow's department. The Honors research is supervised by a departmental Honors professor.

# HONORS GRADUATES

At graduation Fellows wear the Thomas More Medal and receive a special Diploma noting the Fellowship.

All James Graham Brown Honors Scholars and Fellows, and all Honors professors, become life-members of the James Graham Brown Honors Society, which meets several times per year to reunite the graduates of the Honors Program in social activities and service projects.

Updated September 2018

**JAMES GRAHAM BROWN HONORS PROGRAM**  
**INCOMING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY**

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Weighted GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Composite ACT: \_\_\_\_\_ and/or Highest Composite SAT: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of AP/Dual Credit Courses: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s) of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_ High School: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

**Please enclose with this application the following and return to Justin Vogel, Office of Admissions, no later than 5:00 P.M. Monday 14 January 2019:**

1. Academic transcript (which includes your grades for the first half of your Senior year; all ACT and SAT scores; and a list of all dual credit and AP courses taken or in progress). An unofficial transcript given to you by the Registrar or School Administration is acceptable.
2. A statement listing any activities, achievements, or interests which support your candidacy. Be as detailed as possible, particularly with type and **hours of service**. Please note your hours of service per month for your junior and senior year (through 15 December 2018).
3. A 1-2 page essay on **what you would contribute** to the Thomas More University Honors Program and how the Program can help you achieve your goals.
4. A **typewritten essay not to exceed two pages** on the topic outlined on the next page. No names should be placed on the essays. They will be numbered and evaluated anonymously. **Please see next page.**
5. Please request from three persons, preferably your teachers, letters supporting your candidacy. Letters should attest to your academic abilities and/or your character. **These letters are to be in sealed envelopes, your name on the front and your teacher's signature over the sealed flap on the back.** Include these three sealed letters in your application packet.
6. Please note that all finalists will be asked to participate in an interview Friday 15 February 2019.

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Submission \_\_\_\_\_

Notification of Honors Committee decisions is made mid to late March. Students who receive offers must accept or decline by 1 May 2019. You may contact Dr. Sherron in her office, 2213, by phone 859-344-3387, or by e-mail ([Catherine.Sherron@thomasmore.edu](mailto:Catherine.Sherron@thomasmore.edu)). Throughout the application process, you should check your e-mail for acknowledgements and questions from her.

# James Graham Brown Honors Program

## Scholarship Essay

Your essay should not be more than 1000 words and should not have your name on it.  
The essays are evaluated anonymously.

### Essay Prompt

The theme “Curiosity: The Spirit of Honors Inquiry” comes from the writings of the French philosopher Foucault. Foucault suggests that... “it (curiosity) evokes ‘concern;’ it evokes the care one takes for what exists and could exist; a readiness to find strange and singular what surrounds us... a fervor to grasp what is happening and what passes...” (Foucault, 1980).

In 750-1000 words, please reflect on the significance of curiosity and its relevance to your participation in the James Graham Brown Honors Program at Thomas More. Your essay should reflect your original thinking with few or no references to outside sources; your audience consists of college professors.