

## Honors Courses for Spring 2004

BIO 942A: Honors Biology Module **F 8-8:50** Cuffney  
ENG 111F: Principles of Writing **TH 8-9:20** Miller  
HIS 102A: Modern Western Civilization **MWF 12-12:50** Novak

### Honors Colloquia

#### MUS 945A

Popular Music

**Tu-Th 11-12:20** Dr. Jack Roller

Why do we listen to what we do? Why are large groups of people drawn to the same types of music? This class will explore the idea of popular music and develop a means to compare music of many types from various points in history.

In this course, through listening, reading and reflecting, students will become familiarized with music terminology and learn to recognize the component parts of melody, harmony, and rhythm. By critically listening to samples of popular music, they will be able to place their perceived notions of this genre into an appropriate cultural/historical context.

#### REL 945A

Jesus at the Movies

**Tu-Th 2-3:320 with film lab Th 3:30-4:50** Dr. Allen Page

Who does Hollywood say that Jesus is? From silent films to the new millennium, directors have projected their images of Jesus. This is a chance to see, to critique and to reflect.

In this course approximately twelve films will be analyzed in terms of their faithfulness to the Gospel narratives and in terms of how they relate to the Jesus of history/Christ of faith dialogue of the 20th century, especially of the "Jesus Seminar" literature of the last decade. Attention will be given to the artistic presentation of the films as well as to the historical and theological representations.

*Pre-requisite:* 100-level religion course

### Meredith College Honors Program

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# HONORABLE MENTION

Newsletter of the Meredith College Honors Program

Dr. Judy Dearlove, Director  
Julie Novak, Newsletter Adviser  
Amy Kay Nickerson, Managing Editor

Fall 2003

## Welcome to Honors!

If you're like me, the beginning of the school year is always exciting. It is a time to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. It is a time of return and renewal, challenge and adventure. This year was especially exciting for me because, as the new director of Honors, I'd get to work with some of the brightest and most talented students in the country!

Frankly, I was a bit nervous.

I'd done my homework. I knew that the Honors students at Meredith were known for outstanding academic achievement. I knew that they had a long tradition of excellence and leadership. I knew that nine Honors students served as Presidents of their respective clubs, that one Honors student was editor of *Oak Leaves* while another led the Honors Council. I knew that Honors students were active in student government, in soccer and volleyball, in music and theater. In short, I knew that Meredith Honors students were downright impressive.

But I quickly discovered that, as Meredith Honors students, you were also enormous fun and exceptionally generous. I watched as you mentored, supported, and befriended each other. I admired your tact as you patiently instructed me on the mysteries of our digital camera. I marveled at your problem-solving skills as you pulled together a newsletter from my vague suggestion that "we ought to, um, you know, have a newspaper thing."

When Amy Kay and Julie asked me to write this introduction, I panicked (and procrastinated and begged for an extension). What could I say that would convey the extraordinary vitality of the Meredith Honors program?

Should I recount stories from our exhilarating 3-day educational retreat to the Outer Banks? Did readers want to know about our campfire on the beach or our trip to the aquarium? Would they rather hear about the class on aerodynamics or the kite-flying adventures of the participants?

Should I mention Mary Ann Beam's coup in obtaining tickets to the traveling exhibit of *Titanic* artifacts, or focus on Thad O'Briant's triumphant re-creation of a dinner from a menu of that doomed ocean liner?



New Honors students gather around the fountain after the Honors Welcome Banquet on August 20  
G Walton Photo

Then I realized that I didn't really have to say anything because one of the things Meredith Honors students do best, is speak for themselves! So, let me say simply, "Enjoy this newsletter- it's about you! And welcome to Honors!"

-Dr. D

### WHAT'S INSIDE?

- **New Staff Member**  
*Who's behind the smiling face in the Honors office in 209 Joyner?*
- **Titanic Artifact Exhibit**  
*Students witnessed artifacts from the "unsinkable ship" and returned to campus to dine on the Titanic in Belk.*
- **Back from the Outer Banks**  
*More than 30 students and faculty enjoyed a relaxing, yet educational trip to the site of the Wright Bros.' famous first flight.*
- **Meet the new Honors Students**  
*Check out the new kids on the block.*
- **Honors Courses**  
*Look for these courses in the Spring Catalog, and don't forget about Honors contracts.*

Which of these statements concerning Julie Novak, the newest member to the Honors Team, is untrue?



- A. Has five children and seven grandchildren
- B. Bounced on James Dean's knee as a baby
- C. Is the child of Jewish ranchers in the West
- D. Admits to being a Salt-A-Holic
- E. Is a third-generation Californian
- F. Played Bella in *Lost in Yonkers*
- G. A Quizno's peanut butter cookie has almost 400 calories.

Answer: G — It has 125 calories.

Julie, the new Honors Program Assistant, was born in Santa Barbara, CA and has lived in CA, NY, MA, England, and Israel. She has a masters degree in chemistry and started working in the chemistry department last fall. She has lived in North Carolina for 6 years and loves both the coast and the mountains. Julie truly enjoys what she does and it is obvious in her attitude: "I absolutely love my two departments; I have the two coolest bosses on campus!"

## Students attend FOE kick-off event: Titanic artifacts exhibit, dinner

On Sunday, September 29, Honors students, Scholars, and Teaching Fellows explored the *Titanic Artifacts Exhibit* as a part of the 2003 - 2004 Focus on Excellence kick-off event. This exhibit, housed in the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, has an array of artifacts, stories, and replicas from the infamous *Titanic*. Each visitor is given a boarding pass at the beginning of the tour. On the back of the boarding pass is a passenger's name along with interesting facts about him or her. Throughout the exhibit, visitors can read about and observe some of the living conditions and activities that their assigned passenger might have experienced. Some of the more memorable displays were an actual wall of ice, a reproduction of a first-class room and hallway, and an interior of an engine room.

Junior Taylor Newberry especially liked a hands-on tank of ice water, "You had to stick your arm in the water and try to grab a penny on the bottom of the tank. As soon as you stuck your hand in, it went numb. And this was even two or three degrees



warmer than the water was the night the *Titanic* sank!"

At the end of the exhibit, visitors find out whether or not their passengers survived the sinking of the *Titanic*.

When the students arrived back at Meredith, the whole campus was invited to enjoy dinner, as it would have been served on the *Titanic*. The food was excellent - a wonderful culmination to the afternoon.

--Victoria Bunch '05

## Newest Honors...

### Adrienne Kralick

Hometown: Rocky Mount, NC  
Intended Major: Political Studies and Accounting  
Adrienne was Vice President of her class during both her junior and senior years. She has a little brother, Jonathan, who is a giant at 6'3". She is getting her pilot's license, hopefully soon.

### Angela Levesque

Hometown: Raleigh, NC  
Intended Major: Graphic Design and computer information systems  
Angela has two brothers, Nick and Chris. She used to have an iguana named George. She was sports editor of her high school yearbook, and she loves pasta.

### Teresa Nichols

Hometown: Charlotte, NC  
Intended Major: Economics and Political Studies  
This year Teresa serves as WINGS President, History and Politics President, SGA Executive Committee Member, and has been selected as a Ronald Reagan Scholar. Although she misses *General Hospital* during the day, she recently ordered SoapNet so she could watch it every night.

### Amy Kay Nickerson

Hometown: Woodbury, TN  
Intended Major: English with H.S. licensure  
Amy Kay started a high school newspaper during her senior year, and was the "water girl" for her dad's football team. She can easily become obsessed with movies and books, but her true passion is serving Jesus.

### Genevieve Parker

Hometown: Lumberton, NC  
Intended Major: Undecided  
Genna got to swim with the Dolphins in Cancun last year. She loves peanut butter. In fact, she once spoke about peanut butter for ten minutes - in Spanish.

### Crystal Lynne Shoemaker

Hometown: Pikeville, NC (she just moved to New Bern, NC this summer)  
Intended Major: English  
Crystal is an only child. She loves to read and see live bands, and she tries to do something spontaneous on a regular basis.

### (Seleta) Grace Sugg

Hometown: Snow Hill, NC  
Intended Major: Music Education  
In high school Grace was involved in many things both as a part of, and separate from school. She likes scrap booking, and loves Broadway musicals and New York. She also loves all kinds of candy.

### Lauren Thie

Hometown: Charlotte, NC  
Intended Major: Biology, Pre-vet major  
Lauren loves coffee and her Boston Terrier, Cookie.

### Rebecca Thompson

Hometown: Lenoir, NC  
Intended Major: History, Elementary Education  
Rebecca is on Meredith's Soccer Team. She has 2 brothers, Charles and Allen. She loves pigs and has a pet fish named Sally.

### Jennifer Tripoli

Hometown: Cary, NC  
Intended Major: BS in Mathematics 9-12 licensure  
Jennifer loves to swim and be near water. She is also a very random person who likes "I Love Lucy".



New Honors Students pose for a pic during the Honors Welcome Banquet

## Check out this Fall's

### Julie Allred

Hometown: Franklinville, NC  
Intended Major: Interior Design  
Julie has one fish: Gonzo. She has three horses: Princess, Precious, and Rocky. She also LOVES to water-ski.

### Ashley Arnold

Hometown: Spring Hope, NC  
Intended Major: Family and Consumer Sciences with 7-12 licensure  
Ashley is an RA for 2nd Vann, a food lab assistant, and an Aqua Angel. Her favorite color is pink, and she loves Sun Drops and Reese's peanut butter cups.

### Breeanne Baker

Hometown: Mason, MI  
Intended Major: French  
Breeanne has a twin sister, Brittany, at Alaska Pacific University and a brother, Sam. She also has two cats, Zoe and Gus.

### Lisa Becksford

Hometown: Apex, NC  
Intended Major: English with K-6 licensure  
Lisa works at the YMCA and she loves her job! She also loves to read.

### Shannon Braswell

Hometown: Belmont, NC  
Intended Major: Spanish with a k-12 licensure  
Shannon has one sister who is nine: Taylor. She has two German shepherds, pigeons, chickens, and roosters. She can't wait to study abroad.

### Seanette Broughton

Hometown: Jacksonville, NC  
Intended Major: Undecided  
Seanette was involved in quite a few clubs when she was in high school, but she really liked being part of her church youth group and choir. She loves rainbows, the color purple, art, and laughing.

### Stacy Cabeen

Hometown: Westfield, NC  
Intended Major: English with a possible minor in Psychology  
Stacy's favorite comic is "Get Fuzzy" and she has a friend who IS Bucky. On the other hand, she is more like Satchel: she feels like she never knows what is going on. Her goal is to master multi-tasking so she can overcome the Satchel-ness.

### Sydney E. Darden

Hometown: Fayetteville, NC  
Intended Major: Interior Design  
Sydney has a sister named Leslie and a dog named Maggie.

### Elizabeth Greene

Hometown: Rockingham, NC  
Intended Major: Biopsychology  
Elizabeth is an energetic and lively person. She loves traveling and planning trips. Just reading about a country or place she has never been makes her want to pack her bags and go!

### Kimberly Humphrey

Hometown: Tobaccolville, NC  
Intended Major: Art or Interior Design  
Kimberly is a Christian, she loves to meet people and she absolutely loves to paint. Lots of people probably recognize her car; it's the one with all the different colors on it and the huge pink flower on the hood.

### Stephanye Hunter

Hometown: Raleigh, NC  
Intended Major: English  
Stephanye thinks her biggest accomplishments in high school were actually the mistakes she made and learned from. She grew stronger in her faith and in her relationship with the Lord through these trials. Her favorite verse in the Bible is the whole chapter of Isaiah 43.

## July in Chile: A summer abroad experience

This summer, I made a toast to Independence Day...not at a backyard barbecue, not even in the U.S., but at the Portillo Ski Lodge in Chile, after spending the day on the slopes of the Andes Mountains, in July, as winter was setting in.

Despite the lack of a real summer, which is my favorite steamy time of year, spending six weeks in Chile is the best way I can think to have spent the majority of my break. Similar to many study abroad programs here at Meredith, Villanova University sponsors a summer program each year for students to take classes at the Catholic University of Valparaiso, the largest port city in Chile. I stayed with an adorable family in Valpo's metropolitan sister city of Viña del Mar, which is one of the most popular resort areas in South America.

The classes, which were especially for the Villanova program and were taught by either a Spanish professor from Villanova or a professor from "la Catolica," were nice, but the traveling was far better. Almost every weekend, which was always at least three days, we traveled to a different locale in Chile. On our four-day weekend we organized a trip to Buenos Aires, which is the capital of Argentina which exudes a cosmopolitan Italian culture that speaks a distinctly Argentine dialect of Spanish. One weekend we went to Santiago, the bustling capital of Chile, where we visited landmarks with ties to the overthrow of leftist Salvador Allende and the brutal regime of Augusto Pinochet, who ruled Chile from 1973 to 1990.

Perhaps my favorite excursion was to the coastal city La Serena and Valle de Elqui, a lush valley amidst desert hills in the north of Chile, and home to Gabriela Mistral, winner of the 1945 Nobel Prize in Literature. This region is world-renowned for producing tasty grapes for famous Chilean wines and Pisco, a Chilean-Peruvian liquor fermented from grapes and an integral part of Chilean culture. Locally, this region is known for its rich indigenous culture splashed with a little—but not much—technology from the more European cities in the central region of the country. Many of the "campesinos" live happily



Top: Natalie with her Chilean family.  
Bottom: The Villanova group at a dam in Valle de Elqui.

without running water or electricity and have such inventive ways as using the year-round heat of the desert sun, mirrors, and black boxes to cook food. Our guide, Ramón, described the area as a place where Chilean hippies came and decided not to leave. At our last night in the desert we were able to visit one of the most famous observatories in the world, Observatorio Cerro Tololo. I'm a total nerd for stuff like this, so it was incredible to see a completely different sky than I'm used to in the Northern Hemisphere, not to mention that it was absolutely clear and almost devoid of ambient light.

At the beginning of the six weeks, Dr. Estrella Ogden, my literature professor, said that she wanted us to consider why Chile has produced so many poets. I would tell you, but I don't think I can put it into words. The best I can say is Chile itself—the diverse landscape, the age-old traditions, the rich indigenous cultures—is why so many poets emerge from this enchanting place.

--Natalie Hall '04

# Taking Flight: Fall Honors Trip 2003

## Outer Banks, NC

### *A youth hostel can't be that bad ...*

*An investigative trip to the Outer Banks*

It all started when we met with Dr. Dearlove that hot day in June. She told us that she wanted to go to the beach for the Honors trip this fall. We were all assigned something to research, and we decided to take an investigative trip during July. I know absolutely nothing about that Outer Banks area, so I was assigned hotels and lodgings. Now, let me preface this with the fact that my idea of "roughing it" is going to the Marriott without reservations. I searched for hours on the internet for hotels along the beach, but of course I had a price range. Now I'm not sure whether it was the fact that I told the managers of the hotels that we were all college students or the fact that I sound like I'm five years old on the phone, but I kept running into the same problems—either we couldn't have that many people under 21 stay together or the rooms were WAY too expensive. Luckily, Dr. Dearlove got a hot tip on an affordable youth hostel in the area. Naturally we booked it—a youth hostel can't be that bad...

After the four hour ride to the Outer Banks, we were ready to put our bags down in the room and hit the beach. When we pulled up to the hostel, we unanimously thought to ourselves "Don't judge a book by its cover." But after we walked into the rooms and I nearly fainted from the smell, I realized that the outside was pretty nice compared to the rooms. This was one of those places where you don't sleep well because you keep thinking something is crawling on you. And forget about Dr. Dearlove's room. I went in to ask a question, took one breath, and promptly turned myself around and staggered back to my own room. Needless to say, this was not the place we thought it would be. So we hit the beach. Well what would you do if you ended up at the youth hostel from hell?

I had already realized that I was the least cultured in the area of "inexpensive lodgings," and I was really trying to suck it up and deal with it; I wasn't whining or complaining at all—I was going to do it, I was going to spend the night in the youth hostel. Dr. Dearlove went out in search of other lodgings (though we all knew the chances were slim), and we walked along the beach and talked about pretty much anything but the hostel. Then we laid out for a while, again talking about anything but our impending night at the hostel. Finally, Dr. D. came back and told us that she had found a Holiday Inn Express and booked it not only for the night but for the trip in September. That pretty much made my week. I was in a permanent good mood. And when we got to our room in the Holiday Inn, it was like the Hilton compared to the hostel! It had two beds with matching comforters and those little shampoo bottles in the bathroom. I was in heaven! Needless to say the rest of our trip was great. We visited Jockeys' Ridge (the largest sand dune on the East Coast for those of you who didn't know), the bustling metropolis of Duck, and a less than mediocre restaurant in Kitty Hawk. I knew then the fall trip was going to be great!

*-Jessica Conicelli '06*

Every year the Honors Program takes a weekend trip, and this year's trip was to the Outer Banks. The theme of this trip was "Taking Flight," and many of the activities were chosen to correspond to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first flight. On the morning of Friday, September 5, more than 30 Honors students loaded into several vans in the Johnson Hall circle, bags packed, ready to go to Kitty Hawk, NC.

After a few hours on the road, the vans stopped in Manteo for lunch and some shopping. Next on the itinerary was the Wright Brothers National Memorial in Kill Devil Hills. At the memorial, students could walk a path where the distance of the each of the first flights is marked. Nearby are reconstructions of the hangar and living quarters built by the Wright Brothers in 1903. The focus of the memorial is the monument itself: a granite pillar set atop a sand dune pictured right. After a trip through the museums located at the memorial, it was time to head to the hotel.

Each student chose a mini-course to take on Saturday morning. Each course was designed to help the students learn something that they might not have learned otherwise. On Friday night, the mini-course groups met to discuss the following day. After the meetings, each student was on her own for dinner.

Bright and early the next morning, each group met for their mini-course. One course, led by Professor Johnstone, was called "Taking Flight with Photography" and focused on the role of photography in the first flights. As part of the class, students built their own pinhole cameras using coffee cups. Each student was able to take pictures using her camera. Another course, "Shifting Sands," led by Dr. Hazard, studied the effects that sand dunes had in the first flights, and she discussed beach erosion and renourishment. The group went to Jockey's Ridge, the largest natural sand dune on the eastern coast, and to other local beaches. Another group, "Flights and Kites," also visited Jockey's Ridge as part of their course. This class,



led by Dr. Schmidt, made their own kites, and then flew them in the strong wind atop Jockey's Ridge. The students learned what makes kites fly and how to keep their kites in the air. Another mini-course, "The Outer Banks before the Wright Brothers," focused on the history of human civilization on the Outer Banks before the Wright brothers. This course, led by Dr. Price, also investigated the earliest colonies located on the island. Students traveled to Manteo to visit the *Elizabeth II*, a reconstruction of an early ship used by colonists, as well as Fort Raleigh and the Elizabethan Gardens.

After lunch, each student had the opportunity to participate in the activity of her choice. Some students chose to relax at the hotel and enjoy the beach. Some of the more adventurous students went kayaking in the maritime forest. A third group toured the Whalehead Club, a national historic site, as well as the Currituck Lighthouse. All the groups met up at the hotel in the early evening, and then loaded vans to head to Coquina Beach, part of the National Seashore.

After a barbecue dinner, the students and faculty gathered around a campfire built in the sand. Although the moon wasn't out, the fire provided plenty of light and warmth. Everyone took turns toasting marshmallows and building s'mores. Students sang camp songs, told jokes, and played several hilarious rounds of Telephone. Students all agreed that the campfire was one of the best parts of the trip.

The next day, the students packed up and loaded up the vans to leave the hotel. The first stop was the North Carolina Aquarium in Manteo. Students were able to tour the aquarium, which included watching divers working in the saltwater tanks. Following the tour, everyone ate boxed lunches and discussed the trip. Each group told the others about their mini-course and afternoon trip. In the months following the trip, the students will also make presentations to show what they learned to the Meredith community.

*--Lisa Becksford '07*