Honors Global Leadership Opportunities

A defining hallmark of the Honors Program is its commitment to cultivating the leadership skills students need to thrive in their careers and beyond. Central to this growth is preparing students to lead and collaborate effectively in a global workforce. To this end, Honors has partnered with Cal Poly's International Center and the Center for Service in Action to provide transformative leadership opportunities. Through these experiences, students develop the knowledge, agility, and vision to engage meaningfully and serve with purpose in an interconnected world. We encourage you consider taking advantage of one of these opportunities this year. *Note: Participation in one of these opportunities will fulfill the Honors Track Requirement or Honors High Impact Practice (new semester requirement).*

Honors & Cal Poly in London, Summer 2027

The six-week summer program offers you 9 Cal Poly units with two general education courses. One of the courses, ISLA 316 (GE Upper D): London: From Roman Colony to World Capital, is taught by a Londoner instructor arranged through our long-time service provider, FIE: Foundation for International Education. This summer the other two courses will be taught by Dr. Krista Kauffmann from Cal Poly's English Department and Dr. Nikhil Deb from Cal Poly's Social Sciences Department. Dr. Kauffmann will teach, ENGL 3380; Themes in Literature and Culture (GE Area 3, GWR, USCP) and Dr. Deb will teach SOC 2218: International Political Economy (GE Area 4B). You will receive 3 units of Honors Electives for one of these three courses.

In addition to these courses, you will have the opportunity to take part in community engagement experiences alongside the program's academic and cultural activities. As honoree Londoners for the summer, this opportunity will give you the chance to connect with the city and its communities. Activities may include assisting at community events, participating in community-led walking tours, supporting environmental or sustainability initiatives, or other hands-on experiences that fit within the academic schedule. This sort of experiential education supports global citizenship by showing how local actions connect to wider communities and encouraging reflection on the ways you can make a positive impact. It provides insight into how communities function, highlights links between local and global issues, and demonstrates the meaningful role individuals can play in creating change.

Through workshops that will frame the experience, you will be able to make connections between civic responsibility, global learning, and their role as future leaders. Through these experiences, you gain a deeper understanding of London life while contributing to the communities you are part of, complementing the broader learning experience of the program. **NOTE**: In order to count this trip as your Honors High Impact practice you must take part in the community engagement experience.

- To learn more and find info session dates, link to Cal Poly in London.

Honors & Cal Poly in Thailand, Summer 2027

The Cal Poly in Thailand program is a 6-week summer study abroad program based in Chiang Mai. It offers general education courses taught in English by Cal Poly faculty, Dr. Alexa Loken (Communications Studies Department) and Devin Kuhn-Choi (Philosophy Department). The classes emphasize 'Learn by Doing' activities that include same-day and multiple-day excursions to destinations such as Bangkok, Koh Samui Island and Kao Sok National Park in the south, Chiang Rai and the hill tribe region of the north, and an elephant sanctuary. You will receive 6-7 units of academic credit. Students will take WLC 3310: Culture of Thailand (GE Area 3) and RELS 3344:

Approaches to Religion & Spirituality (GE Area 4). You will receive 3 units of Honors Electives for one of these two courses.

In addition to these courses, you will take while in Thailand, *Honors will offer an Honors Seminar (HNRS 2299): Joy to the World: Global Strategies for a Good Life in Spring 2027* taught by Dr. Kuhn-Choi in preparation for the 6-week program abroad. **NOTE:** In order to count this trip as your Honors High Impact Practice you will need to enroll in this honors seminar in Spring 2027.

- To learn more and find info session dates, link to Cal Poly in Thailand

Honors & Alternative Breaks

The Center for Service in Action's Alternative Breaks program provides students the opportunity to serve their global community during spring and summer breaks. These collaborative volunteer excursions focus on humanitarian issues through strong direct service, global leadership workshops, and group reflection. Students are immersed in a local culture, which provides the opportunity to examine social issues and reflect on their own positions of power and privilege. Students who participate on the projects are required to attend 4 pre-departure orientation workshops that include logistics, team building, orientation, and *every* student receiving **the Center for Leadership's Global Leadership certificate**.

Summer Break: May 24 - June 5, 2027, Peru
Students will work with community organizations service children's health and education. Experience immersive cultural excursions and a day trip to Machu Pichu. As part of the trip you will earn Cal Poly's Global Leadership Certificate.

- To learn more and find info session dates, link to Alternative Breaks 2027.
- Cost $4,385 (includes airfare, transportation, in-country meals, accommodations, and all excursions)
- Applications due December 4, 2026

NOTE: To count this as your High Impact Practice, students must enroll in one of the following courses during Spring 2027 semester:

- HIST 3337 Colonial Latin America
- HIST 3338 Modern Latin America
- GEOG 3370 Geography of Latin America
- ES 2255 Introduction to Latina/o/x Studies
- SPAN 3307 Spanish and Latin American Film
- CD 4424 Children's Development in Diverse Cultures

- Students may propose an alternative course.