

HNRS-112: Portfolio Seminar I

Spring 2025

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Office hours: Tue 2-3:30PM, Thurs 9:30-11AM

Class meeting time: Monday 4:00 – 5:00 PM, Lucas 110

Course Description

Honors 112, the second term of Honors Portfolio Seminar I, is a ¼-unit required course for all first year Honors students at Roanoke College. The course is designed to integrate you into the life of the Honors Program and the College, introduce you to the Honors Portfolio, and help you identify and engage in activities that will support your academic, personal and professional goals.

Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of HNRS 111 and HNRS 112, students will be able to:

1. Understand the requirements and components of the academic program at Roanoke
2. Begin to articulate their personal, academic, and professional goals
3. Develop short-term and long-term plans to achieve these goals
4. Identify and engage in appropriate and meaningful service and co-curricular opportunities
5. Recognize and articulate how these opportunities connect with their goals
6. Identify and utilize campus resources

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. In case of extreme circumstances such as medical or family emergency discuss the situation with me before class. Students are personally responsible for obtaining any materials or information covered if they miss a class. Any student with more than one unexcused absence may be dropped from the course.

Date	Meeting Topic	Detail and activities	What you should be working on?	What is due?
1/13	Looking back, Semester preview, Looking ahead	Discussion: How to assess your performance during your first semester at college	Look at your Roadmap and check for any additions or changes.	
1/20	MLK Jr Day	Class will not meet	Meet with your advisor. Please bring a copy of your updated Roadmap assignment	Submit Revised Roadmap to Inquire following meeting
1/27	Individual or Small Group Meetings with Advisors	Conversations about Progress and Roadmap individually or in small groups	Meet with your advisor. Please bring a copy of your updated Roadmap assignment	Submit Revised Roadmap to Inquire following meeting
2/3*	Opportunities at Roanoke College	A visit from offices on campus to discuss campus opportunities		

2/10*	Opportunities at Roanoke College	A visit from offices on campus to discuss campus opportunities		
2/17*	Opportunities at Roanoke College	A visit from offices on campus to discuss campus opportunities	At this point you should be close to 10 Co-curricular Hours completed!	
2/24	Pre-break sanity week	Class will not meet		Mid-Semester Co-Curricular Reflection Due (post to ePortfolio)
3/3	Spring Break	Class will not meet		
3/10	Strategic Planning	Finding opportunities at Roanoke College How to construct a strategic plan	Work on your Strategic Plan for your Roadmap	
3/17	Strategic Planning	Strategic Plan workshop	Continue to revise your strategic plan.	Updated Roadmap Assignment (with Strategic Plan) due at end of class
3/24	Pre-Registration	Individual meetings with advisor	Meet with your advisors to plan classes for the fall semester.	
3/31 *	Distinction Project Introduction	Demystifying the Distinction Project	At this point you should be close to 20 Co-curricular Hours completed!	
4/7	Distinction Projects and planning for next year	Distinction project discussion and workshop	Brainstorm potential ideas or areas for a Distinction Project	Distinction Project Brainstorming results due at the end of class
4/14	Pre-end of semester sanity week	Class will not meet		
4/21	Wrap-up/ Looking ahead	Small presentations/discussion of service/co-curricular activities		Final Co-Curricular Reflection Due (post to ePortfolio)

Note that there is no scheduled final exam in HNRS 112.

An * means that we will be meeting all together. Check the weekly email for location.

Co-Curricular Requirements

You are required to participate in a minimum of 25 hours of co-curricular and service activities, with at least 5 of these hours in service (round to the nearest quarter hour for purposes of counting hours). All service and co-curricular activities should be logged in the appropriate page of your e-Portfolio, with a 3-4 sentence explanation of each experience you log (a bit longer if the experience spans multiple hours). Please pay careful attention to the "Guidelines for Co-curricular Activities" document embedded within the e-Portfolio page. Specific opportunities will be also circulated by email and presented in class.

Note: Some other courses and programs on campus require co-curricular hours and experiences. You are welcome to count one experience for two programs (e.g. a science speaker for both Honors and EPiC credit in Chemistry), so long as you have permission from the other instructor/coordinator to do so.

Writing Assignments

Several writing assignments are required for this class. Some of these will help you assess your interests and abilities, identify and articulate your goals and values, and create a personal strategic plan for your college career.

- *Roadmap Assignment:* The Roadmap you completed last term is designed to be an active and ever-changing document. You will be asked to keep the document updated throughout the term. In addition, we will be working on the Strategic Plan this semester as we finalize our first pass. More information will follow in class.
- *Mid-Semester Co-curricular Reflection:* While each co-curricular event/experience you attend requires a brief annotation in your e-Portfolio log, at the midpoint of the semester, you are required to choose an event and write a more detailed (1-2 page) reflection on the event's influence on your own path. Full instructions for this reflection are located in the "DEAL Model Guidelines" link on your e-Portfolio's "Co-curricular Activities Log". Your reflections should be posted in your e-Portfolio, and I may request a paper copy to facilitate feedback.
- *Final Co-Curricular Reflection:* At the end of your first full year at Roanoke College, we want you to reflect on the activities that you have chosen and how they connect with your values that you have identified in your Roadmap Assignment. The final product should be posted on your ePortfolio under the Reflections tab. In 2-3 pages, please respond to the following prompt:

Choose one of the values in your Roadmap as a focus for this essay. Articulate how your co-curricular experiences this term (at least three) have caused you to reflect upon that value. Has the value become more strongly held for you? Has the value been challenged? Has your understanding of the value become stronger or changed? In your reflection, strive for nuance and depth of explanation. Share how this reflection on an important value might affect your personal goals and strategies - short- and long-term - for achieving them.

Participation

This course is run on a seminar basis. Students are expected to engage actively with their classmates and instructor around the topic at hand.

Grades

HNRS 112 is the second course in a four-semester sequence that is graded on a pass/fail basis. A passing grade requires satisfactory completion of all course requirements, including e-Portfolio, co-curricular and service activities, writing assignments, and attendance and participation. Students who do not receive a passing grade will be evaluated by the Honors Director and may be dismissed from the Honors Program.

Academic Integrity: You are expected to support the academic integrity policies of Roanoke College. Specifically, anything you submit to me must be your work and your work alone. It must also be an honest account of your participation. Remember that lying to your academic advisor (orally or in writing, such as your Activities Log) constitutes a violation of academic integrity and will be reported.

Artificial Intelligence: The assignments in the course focus on deep personal reflection; therefore, you are discouraged from using AI tools to create text in your work (assignments, activities, responses, etc). Any work submitted using AI tools to generate content will be treated as though it was plagiarized. The use of AI tools to edit and refine your work is acceptable, but please inform your instructor. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please reach out to me for a conversation before submitting your work.

Course Modification

The syllabus serves as a course guideline and is subject to revision. We may need to make changes as the semester progresses. All changes will be announced in advance.

Student Health & Counseling Services supports students through in-person health appointments, in-person counseling, 24/7 telehealth (TimelyCare), Therapy Assistance Online, as well as resources related to general wellness, LGBTQ+, sexual assault, substance abuse, and suicide prevention. Unmet health needs can negatively impact your performance in this course. Student Health & Counseling Services can help. Please see <https://www.roanoke.edu/shcs> for more information and to access services.

Accessible Education Services

If you are on record with the College's Office of Accessible Education Services as having academic or physical needs requiring accommodations, please meet with me during my regular office hours or schedule an appointment as soon as possible. We need to discuss your accommodations before they can be implemented.

If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not yet formally contacted Accessible Education Services, please contact the Coordinator for Accessible Education Services at 375-2247 or aes@roanoke.edu or drop by the Center for Learning & Teaching in Fintel Library.

Writing Center

Roanoke College's Writing Center, located on the lower level of Fintel Library, is a place where writers working in any academic discipline, at any level of competence, at any stage of the writing process meet with trained peer writing tutors in informal, one-on-one tutoring sessions focused on writing. Tutoring is free. The Writing Center is open Sunday through Thursday from 4 to 9 p.m. Email questions to the Writing Center at writingcenter@roanoke.edu or call 375-4949.