

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

ESL, Honors Program, Middle College, and ROTC

ESL PROGRAM –(ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE)

In concert with the mission of Trine University, the mission of the ESL program is to provide Non-Native English Speaking Students with all the skills necessary to be successful in U.S. institutions of higher learning, to lead enriched lives during their time in the United States, and to share their cultures with their local communities.

To achieve this mission, the Trine University ESL program emphasizes:

- expecting and requiring the highest ethical standards from its students, faculty and support staff
- modeling and clearly explaining the rules of classroom etiquette
- respecting each student's culture while modeling and clearly explaining U.S. culture and traditions
- defining and promoting ethical study and test-taking practices
- providing daily opportunities for individual meetings with faculty
- requiring active classroom participation
- systematically teaching the four areas of language skills: reading, writing, understanding, and speaking
- promoting active participation in the local community
- providing opportunities to share students' cultures with the local community

Trine University's ESL Program envisions seven core values. They are:

1. Providing a secure environment that embraces diversity
2. Breaking down language and cultural barriers through education
3. Focusing on the needs of the students
4. Maintaining and teaching the highest ethical standards in all activities
5. Providing quality instruction and individualized help as needed
6. Promoting professional growth
7. Recognizing each student as an individual with potential greatness

The Trine University ESL program is comprised of four levels:

1. In level 1, students practice the basics of English Communication.
2. In level 2, students improve on basic communication tasks while gaining exposure to academic English.
3. Level 3 students have a good command of English for communicative purposes and concentrate more on academic skills.
4. In level 4, students focus on the academic skills they will need for matriculation into their degree program.

In order to matriculate into a degree program, students must attain an overall average of C+ in all their level 4 courses.

Undergraduate students may also enter into a degree program by officially submitting a score of 71 on the TOEFL iBT (530 PBT) or 6.0 on the IELTS test before the last day to drop/add courses. Graduate students need a TOEFL iBT of 79 (550 PBT) or 6.5 on the IELTS.

HONORS PROGRAM

The mission of the Trine University Honors Program is to provide support, resources, and academic experiences to high achieving and highly motivated students, thus allowing them to grow intellectually and become active independent learners. A student in the Honors Program would be exposed to a breadth of teaching methods and topics and, through this exposure, will have a more fulfilling and varied educational experience.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

First-year students accepted to any Trine University program with a minimum SAT of 1220/ACT 27 and a High School GPA of 3.750 or higher may be invited into the Honors Program. The Honors Program Director will review qualifications of incoming freshmen and will make recommendations for admittance, which will then go before the Honors Program Advisory Board for final approval. Current Trine University freshmen or sophomores may also apply for admission into the Honors Program. These students must notify the Honors Program Director of their intentions, have a current Trine University GPA of 3.500 or higher, and must submit a letter of recommendation from a Trine University faculty member. Decisions regarding admission will be made on a case-by-case basis as space allows.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students accepted into the Honors Program will need to earn 22 Honors Program Points and satisfy the basic requirements for each category listed below. In addition, students also must maintain a 3.500 GPA to successfully earn an Honors Degree.

Introduction to Honors Seminar—HNR 121 (1 pt)

Honors students are required to take this course their first semester in the Honors Program. This course provides an introduction to the Honors Program and is also a forum to read about and discuss various current topics. Writing, critical thinking, and classroom discussion are emphasized. This is a one credit hour course and can be applied toward a student's social sciences general education requirements.

Honors Courses/Contract Courses (13 - 16 pts)

Honors students are required to compile at least 13 points with any combination of dedicated HNR courses, honors sections of regularly offered courses, or contract courses in their departments. For HNR courses and honors sections of courses, the credits for each course will directly correlate to the number of points earned. Contract course points will vary depending on the degree of extra work involved. Students must take courses in at least two of the three categories listed above.

Enrichment Experiences (4 -6 pts)

Honors students are required to participate in extracurricular activities that enrich classroom learning. These activities are varied in scope and will center on the students' interests. Students are required to earn at least one enrichment experience point per year to total a minimum of four points before graduation.

Honors Project (4 pts)

Honors students are required to complete an Honors Project during their senior year. Activities that qualify for an Honors Project include an original Honors Thesis, a semester of study abroad, or elaboration of a capstone project to include Honors Program requirements. Honors Projects will culminate in a written paper as well as a presentation at the Honors Symposium held at the end of the spring semester.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

To participate in the Honors Program, a student must maintain a 3.500 cumulative grade point average at the end of each academic year. A student whose GPA falls below 3.500 will be placed on probation in the Honors Program and will have one semester to raise his/her GPA. A student may only be placed on probation once. If the GPA would fall below 3.500 a second time, the student would be removed from the Honors Program.

MIDDLE COLLEGE (Dual Credit Program for High School Students)

Through the Middle College, Trine University provides an opportunity for high school students to earn dual credit (college and high school credit simultaneously). Courses are offered in the following ways: on Trine University campuses and online (blended with Trine University students), and on the campuses of participating high schools (strictly for high school students through the concurrent enrollment program).

To qualify for Middle College, students must meet the following requirements: submit an official Middle College application and a current high school transcript, be in good academic standing in high school (GPA of B or higher or by recommendation of the high school guidance counselor), successfully completed the sophomore year of high school, and be currently enrolled in a public, private, or home school.

Courses on campus and online are offered throughout the calendar year, and students may register for any courses in which they meet the prerequisites. Courses on high school campuses are offered during the school year, and high schools only offer specific courses. Tuition is set at a significantly reduced rate. Students taking courses on the campuses of Trine University or online must provide the books specified by the course syllabus; students enrolled in the concurrent enrollment program generally rent books through their regular high school book rental program (this is decided by the participating high school).

All Middle College students must sign enrollment forms which cover the policies and procedures related to Middle College participation. Middle College students are registered

students with the university and must abide by policies stated in the Trine University Student Handbook.

Trine University Middle College is a member of the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP).

More information is available at www.trine.edu/middlecollege or by calling the Middle College office at 260.665.4307.

ROTC – AIR FORCE RESERVES OFFICER TRAINING CORPS

The Air Force Reserves Officer Training Corps (ROTC) is an educational program designed to give men and women the opportunity to become Air Force officers while completing their degrees. The Air Force ROTC Program develops leadership and management skills students need to become leaders in the 21st Century. In return for challenging and rewarding work, ROTC offers the opportunity for advancement, education and training, and the sense of pride that comes from serving your country. Upon completion of the Air Force ROTC program, students are commissioned as second lieutenants in the United States Air Force. Following commissioning, there are excellent opportunities for postgraduate study in a wide variety of academic fields.

In accordance with the Crosstown Agreement with Detachment 225 at the University of Notre Dame, Trine University students may participate in ROTC by travelling to South Bend one afternoon and evening per week for coursework. For more information contact Shawn P. Braue, Lt Colonel, USAF; 574.631.4675.

