

**Kansas Wesleyan University Honors Program
Student Application Form (by invitation)**

*Return to the Academic Dean's Office. Applications must be reviewed and approved by the Honors Program Committee prior to students pre-enrolling in HONR coursework.
NOTE: If the applicant is new to KWU, this form should be accompanied by a completed recommendation form.*

Name _____ KWU ID# (if known) _____

Version of the Honors Program for which you are applying (check one):

_____ Honors designation (18hrs – the “4-year plan”)

_____ Honors certificate (9hrs – the “abbreviated plan”)

a. Please list below any extra-curricular activities you have engaged in:

b. Please list below any church/community service you have engaged in:

c. Please list below any awards/honors you have received:

d. Please list below any honors classes, Advanced Placement classes, or International Baccalaureate classes you have taken previously:

2010-2011 Essay Questions

We invite you to think beyond boundaries when you answer the questions below. Take a risk and go somewhere unexpected. Be serious if the moment calls for it but feel comfortable being playful if that suits you, too.

I. REQUIRED SHORT ESSAY

The mission of the KWU Honors Program is to challenge selected students' creativity, leadership and intellect towards greater independence and service to the world. In view of this, please answer the following five questions in a single, comprehensive essay of 300-500 words:

1. Why do you want to participate in the KWU Honors Program?
2. What do you believe you can contribute to a community of learners?
3. How have you been prepared to participate in a program of self-motivated study and advanced, creative academic exploration?
4. Consider a specific topic that you studied in high school that had special significance to you as a scholar. Why was this particular topic meaningful to you?
5. How do you hope to grow intellectually in college?

II. ESSAY OPTIONS

The following topics offer you an opportunity to illustrate your capacity to address the intellectual and social challenges of the new century, as well as the four elements of successful leadership: critical thinking, creativity, practicality and wisdom. Please choose one essay and prepare a response of 600-900 words.

1. In *The Happy Life*, Charles Eliot called books "the quietest and most constant of friends...the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers." What work of fiction or non-fiction changed the way you live or the way you see the world? Why?
2. Thomas Edison believed invention required "a good imagination and a pile of junk." What inspires your original thinking? How might you apply your ingenuity to serve the common good and make a difference in society?
3. Engineers and scientists like astronomer Edwin Powell Hubble discover new solutions to contemporary issues. "Equipped with his five senses," Hubble said, "man explores the universe around him and calls the adventure Science." Using your knowledge of scientific principles, identify "an adventure" in science you would like to study and tell us how you would design an investigation to address it. What solution do you hope to find and why?

4. Create a short story using one of the following topics:
 - a) One Way Ticket
 - b) "Do Not Push"
 - c) Toast
 - d) The Back Seat on the School Bus
 - e) Something's Not Right...

5. Every day, people make decisions that force them beyond their comfort levels. Perhaps you moved to a different country or left behind your neighborhood friends to attend a school outside your home district. Maybe you have a political, social or cultural viewpoint that is not shared by the rest of your school, family or community. Where did you find the courage to create a better opportunity for yourself or others? How did you find the voice to stand up for something in which you passionately believed? Why did you persevere when the odds were against you?

6. The mission of Kansas Wesleyan University is to integrate and promote academic excellence, social responsibility, and spiritual development. Describe how your own spiritual beliefs guide and direct your role as a student. What is the relationship between your faith and your responsibility to the larger community? How do you see your beliefs informing your intellectual life and social responsibilities after college?

7. If you prefer not to write an essay, you may use your preferred medium to create an original, non-written work. You can blueprint your future home, design a costume or a theatrical set, compose a score, create an original work of visual art or sculpture, produce a short film, or do something entirely different. Let your imagination wander.