

University of West Florida Honors Council  
Constitution  
University of West Florida

**I. Statement of Purpose**

The Honors Council of the University of West Florida shall seek to provide greater opportunities for students enrolled in the Honors Program by facilitating increased academic achievement, cultural awareness, community service, research opportunities, and unity within the Honors Program and the university. The Honors Council shall also seek to provide Honors students the opportunity to speak and be heard by the university administration, faculty and the community as a whole. The Honors Council shall listen to students, respond effectively to their needs, provide social and service events to foster a sense of community, and supplement the academic mission of the Honors Program.

We the Honors Council, in order to promote the Honors Program, provide service, ensure a growing social community, provide leadership and secure the values of the program, do ordain and establish this constitution for the UWF Honors Council.

**II. Meetings**

A. Meetings of the Honors Council will be held weekly during the fall and spring semester at a time and place designated by the executive board.

B. Special meetings of the Honors Council can be called and may be designated as mandatory at the discretion of the Executive Board.

C. Honors Council Meetings are open to the public.

**III. Executive Board**

A. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, and the Chairs of the Social, Service, Public Relations and Fundraising Committees. Each position is to be elected yearly in the spring semester for the following fall and spring semesters. No member of the Executive Board shall remain in any office if the member is placed on honors probation, has been on Executive Board for more than six semesters, or is impeached by two-thirds vote.

B. Meetings for the Executive Board will be scheduled at the discretion of the Executive Board, and are open to all Honors Council members. However, members must announce their intention of attending to the Executive Board at least one day prior to the meeting. If sensitive matters are discussed, non-executive members may be excused from the proceedings at the discretion of the any executive board member.

C. The Executive Board shall perform its duty in good faith towards the Honors Council body. No action can be deliberately made to oppose the majority of the Honors Council. Any decision

made by the Executive Board may be overturned by a veto requiring a simple majority vote of the Honors Council. The motion for the veto must be heard within two consecutive meetings following the announcement of the questioned decision.

#### D. Executive Board Positions and Duties

##### i. President

- a. To oversee all Honors Council activities to ensure that the best interests of the university Honors Program are being represented at all times.
- b. To guide and assist the members of the Executive Board in their duties and to lead the Honors Council in official Honors Program and University matters.

##### ii. Vice President

- a. Recruitment of new members for the Honors program as well as the Honors Council
- b. Communication within and between the Honors Council and other organizations.
- c. Fulfillment of President's duties in absence of President

##### iii. Public Relations Chair

- a. Organize and lead all details pertaining to public relations related events

##### iv. Service Chair

- a. Organize and lead all details pertaining to service related events

##### v. Social Chair

- a. Organize and lead all details pertaining to social related events

##### vi. Fundraising Chair

- a. Organize and lead all details pertaining to fundraising related events

#### IV. Committees

A. Service Committee – The Service Committee shall be structured at the discretion of the Service Chair and shall convene in conjunction with Honors Council meetings.

B. Social Committee – The Social Committee shall be structured at the discretion of the Social Chair and shall convene in conjunction with Honors Council meetings.

C. Fundraising Committee – The Fundraising Committee shall be structured at the discretion of the Fundraising Chair and shall convene in conjunction with Honors Council meetings.

D. Public Relations Committee -- The Public Relations Committee shall be structured at the discretion of the Public Relations and shall convene in conjunction with Honors Council meetings.

E. Ad hoc Committees may be created, filled and dissolved as necessary by the Executive Board. No Ad Hoc Committee shall stand for more than two (2) consecutive semesters.

F. Committee Membership- Honors Council members must belong to one of the committees named in A through D. Members may choose their committee, but may be refused membership to a committee that is already full. Full is defined as one fourth ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of the Honors Council.

## **V. Elections**

A. Elections will take place by secret ballot. Elections may take place only in the presence of a quorum and will be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast.

## **VI. Limitations on Power**

The Honors Council is not established in order to overthrow the government in any way, by force or unlawful means. Its purpose and activities are lawful and in compliance with all university policies.

## **VII. Statement of Policy**

A. The Honors Council will not discriminate in membership on the basis of sex, race, creed, national origin, age, marital status, handicap, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

B. The Honors Council will not engage in any hazing activities.

## **VIII. Ratification and Amendments**

Ratification of and amendments to this constitution must be passed by a two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) majority of a quorum. Amendments must be read at the meeting at which they are introduced, and reread and voted on at the following meeting.

## **IX. Bylaws**

Changes to the bylaws may be made with a vote of a quorum, plus executive board approval. Two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) majority vote of council is required if changes are not approved by the executive board.