University Scholars Program

Student Handbook

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I. The University Scholars Program

Mission Statement
University Scholars embraces Baylor’s mission “to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.” To this end, the program provides an individualized academic experience for intellectually gifted, highly motivated students with a wide diversity of interests and a genuine passion for learning.

The University Scholars Advantage
The program seeks to broaden a student’s background in the liberal arts while preparing that individual for a career through concentrated study in several areas. In order to achieve their full academic potential, Scholars enjoy exclusive exemption from virtually all core curricular requirements. Additionally, since University Scholars is a declared major, students are not subject to the specialized course requirements of a traditional major. Scholars create an individualized course of study guided by the advice and mentorship of University Scholars Program directors throughout their entire four years.

In order that students derive the full benefit from the program, University Scholars complete four years (eight regular semesters) enrolled at Baylor University. Early graduation is not admissible except for students who enter the program as transfer students from another university. All Scholars spend at least 90 hours as students within the program.

Applicant Profile
Because of the distinguished nature of the University Scholars Program, the highest admission standards apply. Selected applicants consistently rank in the top 10% of their high school classes, and their SAT scores currently average over 1440. The program generally includes approximately 160 students—little more than one percent of the total enrollment at Baylor. One-third of Scholars are National Merit Finalists.
II. Program Structure and Policies

Admission Process
Most students enter the University Scholars Program as freshmen. A student must first be accepted to Baylor before applying. An application form is available online on the admissions section of the UNSC website, www.baylor.edu/univ_sch. In order to receive word by the May 1\textsuperscript{st} college notification deadline, the applicant must ensure that the completed form, the required essay, and three letters of recommendation arrive in the UNSC office by April 1\textsuperscript{st}. Upon review by the UNSC directors, National Merit Finalists receive automatic acceptance and need not provide letters of recommendation. However, National Merit Finalists should still submit the application essay in order to provide a profile of their academic interests. The directors of the program select all other students admitted into the program.

Criteria for Admission
In order of priority, the following are the five criteria for admission into University Scholars:

1) Because of the great disparity in the level of secondary school programs throughout the country, primary emphasis is necessarily placed on SAT/ACT scores.
2) Class rank and GPA
3) A 500-word essay stating the student’s reasons for applying to the program
4) Three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant’s academic record and potential for success at the university level
5) Since University Scholars are exempt from taking introductory required courses, the number and type of Advanced Placement or college-level courses previously taken will be considered.

Late Entries and Transfers
In order that students derive the full benefit from the program, University Scholars will not accept students who have fewer than three years or 90 hours remaining to complete their undergraduate degree at Baylor. All Scholars must therefore complete at least 90 hours as students within the program. Students should be aware that such late application necessarily has very high expectations vis-à-vis admission requirements. The deadline is September 1. Students who apply before the completion of their freshman year and before declaring another major are given higher admission priority. The students who are accepted are responsible for changing their majors to University Scholars; this may be done in the academic advisement office located on the first floor of the Paul L. Foster Success Center (Sid Richardson Building).

Maintaining University Scholars Status
As members of this select group, University Scholars are expected to maintain the highest academic standards. Scholars are required to maintain a 3.5 GPA cumulative average during all semesters of the program. Scholars who fall below this mark will submit both an acknowledgement that they are below the required GPA (UNSC Form 99j: Probation Waiver) and a detailed plan showing how and in what amount of time a 3.5 cumulative GPA will be reached (UNSC Form 32b: Petition for Probationary Semester). Any Scholar who has not achieved a 3.5 or better GPA by the time he or she has completed 60 hours should meet with a program director to discuss whether or not the Scholar should continue in the program. The
minimum GPA policies will be strictly enforced for the benefit of the student, since University Scholars cannot graduate from Baylor with less than a 3.5 cumulative average. Students at risk of not reaching the minimum GPA must therefore change majors within enough time to complete both the core curricular courses and the requirements for another major. The decision to remain in or resign from the program will rest with the student. Students who decide to remain in the program, however, must sign a waiver (Form 99j) indicating they are aware of the university policy prohibiting Scholars from graduating with less than a 3.5 cumulative average and complete a petition for a probationary semester (Form 32b).

University Scholars Honor Code
University Scholars must abide by the strictest code of honor. Scholars proven guilty of any form of academic dishonesty or other violation of the Honor Code at Baylor University may be automatically dismissed from the program.

Course Load
True Scholars will demonstrate their love of learning through consistent coursework. The highest ranked graduate and professional schools consider not only grades and test scores but also the quality of courses and the number of hours completed per semester. Therefore, in order to enhance their academic profile, University Scholars are expected to take a minimum of 15 hours each semester. Scholars enrolled in preparation courses for the MCAT, LSAT, GRE, or comparable examinations may petition to be exempted from the 15 hour rule, as may second term seniors with advanced hours writing their thesis. To achieve reduced course load status, the student must submit in writing a request for a course reduction (UNSC Form 403a: Reduced Course Load Request) which presents a seemingly rationale for the reduction. Granting of the request is not automatic and will be decided by University Scholars directors on a case by case basis. With the exception of physical education (HP), University Scholars are allowed to take a class on a pass/fail basis only if such a course is above the basic fifteen hour requirement.

Academic Majors and Minors
University Scholars may not declare an additional major or a minor. They graduate from Baylor with a Bachelor of Arts degree in University Scholars. Nevertheless, Scholars may fulfill the regular requirements of one or more majors in order to state that they hold the equivalent of that major or requirements required by professional schools. With the assistance of their advisor, Scholars should carefully plan their course of study in order to reflect their academic interests and career goals.

Restrictions on Course Selection
The University Scholars program is dedicated to the study of subjects foundational for shaping our minds and our lives. These subjects have been historically known as the liberal arts and pure sciences. Regardless of a student's planned career path, these courses must form the core of a University Scholar's curriculum. In consultation with their advisor, Scholars may take a limited number of courses in the pre-professional disciplines (e.g., education, engineering, business courses, et sim.). This work is usually limited to 18 hours of course work. Students seeking to take more than 18 hours of pre-professional courses should not enroll in the program.
**Degree Requirements**

- REL 1310 and REL 1350
- Two semesters of Chapel
- GTX 2301** (University Scholars section) in the fall of freshman year
- GTX 2302** (University Scholars section) during the spring of freshman year
- UNSC 3301 (University Scholars capstone course) in the fall semester of the junior year
- UNSC 3001 (Exit Interview) during the spring of the junior year
- HON 4V87 (thesis for total of 4 hours) or UNSC 4101/4302 during senior year
- Completion of at least 90 Baylor credit hours as a University Scholar
- Completion of 124 hours including 36 hours of 3000-4000 level credits
- **A maximum of four courses of human performance and ten hours of applied music and/or ensemble may be included in the required 124 hours**

* For BIC and Honors Program exemptions, see Section III.
** UNSC students must register for the UNSC section of the GTX courses (typically section U). Students who enter the program after the fall of the freshman year should meet with a UNSC advisor to discuss how best to complete the UNSC requirements.

**Phi Beta Kappa Requirements**

Phi Beta Kappa is universally recognized as the most prestigious academic society in the country. In general, membership is reserved for students in the liberal arts (arts & sciences) who rank in the top five percent of the senior class (normally with a 3.9 minimum GPA). Juniors with 4.0 GPAs may also be considered. Membership is by invitation only. Scholars interested in being eligible for selection to Phi Beta Kappa must complete a minimum of 90 hours in liberal arts courses including the following: one college science/laboratory course, one course in college-level mathematics and the completion of the second year of a foreign language. AP, Credit by Exam, IB, Dual Credit courses accepted by Baylor will satisfy the science and mathematics requirement. The foreign language requirement cannot be satisfied except by being enrolled in and completing a college language course of at least the fourth semester proficiency.

In order that University Scholars be considered for this distinction, the directors will suggest completing at least the minimums in science and math, and will encourage Scholars to be enrolled in a foreign language class every semester.

**The University Scholars Courses**

In order to provide a shared basis for scholarly thought and discussion, the Great Texts tradition serves as a foundation for the program. All University Scholars take a series of three Great Texts courses: *The Ancient Tradition* (GTX 2301) and *The Medieval and Renaissance Tradition* (GTX 2302) in the freshman or sophomore year, and *The Modern Tradition* (UNSC 3301) in the junior year. **Scholars enrolled in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) must complete a separate course sequence and are not required to take these three courses described in this section.**
The following courses in the BIC will substitute for the UNSC Great Text sequence:

- BIC 1314  World Cultures I: Roots of Culture  for  GTX 2301  The Intellectual Tradition of the Ancient World
- BIC 1324  World Cultures II: Religion and Culture  for  GTX 2302  The Medieval Intellectual Tradition
- BIC 4389  Examined Life III: BIC Capstone  for  UNSC 3301  University Scholars Capstone

**The Independent Reading List (Freshman Year through Junior Year)**

In addition to the texts studied in the Great Texts courses, Scholars select a number of texts that they will read on their own during the first three years of the program (a list of approved texts appears in Section VI). The numeral after each title indicates the number of Reading Units (RUs) assigned to that text. Directors may also approve certain selections from lengthy works and assign an RU value based on the amount of material read—thus the designation “1-3” or “1-4.” The Independent Reading List should total approximately 20 Reading Units (RUs) in each of the three periods: Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance, and Modern (10 RUs from Early Modern and 10 RUs from Later Modern) for a total of 60 RUs. Since the independent readings intend to broaden the Scholar’s knowledge, selections must be limited to 3 Reading Units by the same author. Concentrated readings in one author should be reserved for the senior thesis.

Scholars must present the entire 60 points of their reading list for approval at the advisement appointment in the fall of their freshman year or at their first advisement appointment if they enter the program at a later date. The reading selections are not required to reflect a student’s concentration, but they should set an agenda for personal enrichment during the Scholar’s undergraduate years. **Exceptions to the author limit or to include texts that do not appear on the UNSC reading list must be approved by a program director. Modification and updating of the Scholar’s list is possible with a director’s approval.**

Texts read in college course work may not be included in the independent reading list. However, texts not read in their entireties in UNSC or BIC courses may be completed for reduced credit, with the approval of a director.

Scholars should follow the standard format for the independent reading list found in Appendix IX. To be official, lists must be signed and dated by both student and director, and the points for each period must be totaled. If students wish to make subsequent changes, they must submit a new list with changes noted, and have it signed by a director.

Finally, the UNSC independent reading list and preparation for the Exit Interview is to be conducted independently of readings for the University Scholars thesis.
The Exit Interview (Spring of Junior Year)

Scholars demonstrate their knowledge of the texts on their reading list in an Exit Interview which generally lasts from 45 minutes to one hour. The interview committee, headed by a UNSC director, includes an outside faculty member and a senior University Scholar who has successfully completed the interview. Students select the outside faculty member and the senior University Scholar. Ideally, the student would choose her or her thesis director to be the outside professor. A UNSC director will be assigned to lead and facilitate each interview. If the student’s thesis director is also a UNSC director, that individual will conduct the interview and the student will secure a second professor to serve as the outside faculty examiner.

All three members of the committee should be familiar with some, if not most, of the texts on the student’s reading list.

Exit Interviews take place during three periods of the academic year:
  • First month of the semester for seniors (with approved Exit Interview extensions)
  • Second month of the semester for juniors (standard schedule)
  • Third month of the semester for juniors or seniors who did not pass the first attempt

University Scholars complete their Exit Interview during the spring of their junior year. Scholars requesting an extension must complete the Exit Interview Extension Form (UNSC Form 403b).

Scholars must register for the interview (UNSC 3001) along with the other courses they will take during the semester in which they plan to do the interview.

To schedule the Exit interview:
  1) At least 30 days in advance, Scholars contact an outside professor and schedule a date and time.
  2) Then, Scholars contact a senior Scholar who has already passed the interview and who would be available at that date and time.
  3) Scholars should then immediately email the UNSC office to request that examination time. Contact the office as soon as possible and at least three weeks prior to the desired interview date. Provide the following information in this email:
     a. the desired date and time of the interview,
     b. the names of the outside professor and the senior University Scholar, and
     c. the reading list to be examined. A signed, approved copy should also be in your file in the UNSC office.
  4) The office manager will assign a UNSC director to lead the committee and email the Scholar and the committee the location and room number of the interview. Contacting the office later than three weeks before the desired date may make it impossible to convene the full committee; in this case, the student will need to reschedule.
  5) The Scholar should confirm by email the date, time, and place with the three interviewers one week prior to the Exit Interview, attaching the final approved reading list.

If a Scholar’s performance falls short, a second Exit Interview covering the same content may be taken during the next scheduled period.
The following list of expected outcomes and skills may help you prepare for your Exit Interview.

A University Scholar will be able to do the following in the Exit Interview:
- Provide detailed information about the text, indicating thorough reading and preparation.
- Describe important distinctions, definitions or arguments advanced by the author/text.
- Discuss the context in which the text was written and received.
- Make connections between and among texts.
- Identify important themes, similarities or relational ties between and among texts.
- Draw personal or disciplinary relevance to selected texts.
- Remain composed, even when faced with a difficult or unexpected question.
- Answer succinctly and be prepared to elaborate.
- Articulate concrete and abstract ideas both clearly and logically; do not bluff.

Additional information about the exit interview is available in section V of the Handbook.

The Senior Thesis
For Senior Thesis, Scholars may either submit an extended study on a research topic of their choice or prepare a creative project that reflects their artistic interests. Any creative project such as a musical performance or an artistic work must include a written component although it need not be as lengthy as a research thesis. Although it may serve as a point of departure for the student’s research, work previously submitted, in part or in its entirety, for credit in another course cannot be resubmitted as part of the Senior Thesis (e.g., a research paper, an art portfolio, or a musical performance completed as a requirement in another course).

Students select a professor in their field of interest to direct the thesis. In addition to this thesis advisor, students invite a second professor in that field as well as a third professor outside of that field to serve as readers. Except in rare circumstances, students will organize the writing of the senior thesis within the courses and deadlines of the Honors Program. During the third year, Scholars will enroll in a guided reading semester HON3101 with their thesis professor. In the fourth year, Scholars register for HON4V87 for a total of 4 credit hours over two semesters. A detailed outline, the first chapter of the thesis, and a bibliography must be submitted to the thesis advisor and the UNSC office at the end of the fall semester of the senior year. The final hours of HON4V87 are taken in the semester in which the thesis will be completed and defended.

A complete draft of the thesis must be turned in to the thesis advisor and readers by April 1st. After this draft has been read by the three faculty members, students must present themselves before them for a formal defense of their thesis. Thesis defenses will take place between April 5th and April 15th. Scholars are responsible for arranging the date and time of the defense. As soon as this information is turned into the Honors/UNSC office, the office manager will reserve a room for the defense. A final copy of the thesis including all additions and corrections recommended by the faculty is due in the Honors/UNSC office no later than April 25th. For students graduating in December, a completed thesis must be turned in by November 1st with the defense scheduled between November 5th and November 15th. A final copy is due before December 1st.
Scholars must complete and defend a thesis in order to graduate from Baylor. Without successful completion of the thesis, a Scholar will not be permitted to graduate from the program, even if all other required courses have been completed.

In the rare occasion where a Scholar is not writing a thesis with the Honors Program, the following UNSC requirement will apply along with the above mentioned dates for submission of the documents.

UNSC 4101  Senior Thesis
UNSC 4302  Senior Thesis

**Visiting Lecturers**

Students who love learning seek to expose themselves to diverse ideas through every means available. Therefore, in addition to reading and discussing great texts, Scholars are expected to attend as many of the cultural events on campus as possible. The UNSC office in coordination with the Honors Program will provide information via e-mail on these events.
Phi Beta Kappa and University Scholars Endowed International Scholarship
The Phi Beta Kappa and University Scholars Endowed International Scholarship for study abroad was established in honor of Dr. Bruce C. Cresson, the founding director of University Scholars. The award is given to a University Scholar who displays significant financial need along with excellent academic credentials. The scholarship, approximately $500 depending on available funds, will be awarded once per academic year. Applications will be due February 5 of each year and will be awarded prior to the start of summer courses. Applications are available in the University Scholars Office, Morrison Hall 203.8. All information furnished will remain in strict confidence and will only be available to members of the Cresson Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship Requirements:
* The student must be classified as a sophomore, junior, or senior University Scholars major during the academic year in which the scholarship is awarded.
* The student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 to receive the scholarship.
* The student must be a full-time student during the scholarship period.
* The scholarship must be used for study abroad in a Baylor program.

University Scholars and Other Programs
University Scholars may participate in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC). University Scholars enrolled in BIC must fulfill the core requirements of that program. Those requirements include a lab science course, a mathematics course, and two hours of Human Performance in addition to the BIC courses. Completion of BIC requirements is the responsibility of the student with the assistance of the BIC advisors. UNSC directors make every effort to assist with BIC compliance. University Scholars in BIC must meet with their BIC advisors each semester to determine that their BIC requirements are being met. For more information, contact the BIC (ext. 3981).

University Scholars are automatically part of the Honors Program, therefore all University Scholars are required to take HON320 (Colloquium). University Scholars may also substitute the required course UNSC 3301 (University Scholars Capstone) for one semester of HON 3100 (Independent Readings). In some cases, two semesters of readings (HON3100 and HON3101) over two semesters may be recommended to facilitate the preparation needed to write a good thesis. Fulfillment of Honors Program requirements is the responsibility of the student, with the assistance of the Honors Program advisors. For more information, contact the Honors Program (ext. 1119).

Students who substitute BIC or Honors Program courses for UNSC coursework must graduate in the BIC or Honors Program for these substitutions to remain valid. If students exit the BIC or Honors Program before completing the requirements, they should speak with a UNSC director immediately.
III. Advising and Registering for Classes

Advisement
Scholars must be advised by one of the UNSC directors before the first day of registration. They will be notified by email to sign up for an appointment, and they should bring a proposed schedule, complete with course numbers (e.g., ENG 2301), with them to their advising session. Scholars who have not turned in a reading list must bring their completed list for approval to the advising session as well.

Advisement Schedule:
- For Spring Semester: Advisement appointments begin in October.
- For Fall Semester: Advisement appointments begin in February.
- For Summer Semesters: Advisement is concurrent with advising for the fall.

Departments maintain their own processes for managing their courses. If you need a prerequisite waiver or authorization to register for a course, only the Department of record and/or the professor of record can grant those authorizations. Students are not able to register until they have completed their required advising, including University Scholars advising.

Premedical/Predental/Prelaw/Honors/BIC Students
University Scholars should seek advisement in programs and disciplines where they are seeking concentrations. It is advisable to consult applicable Premedical/Predental/Prelaw/Honors/BIC Program advisors before requesting final schedule approval from UNSC. University Scholars advisors work in coordination with other academic units across campus to ensure that Scholars receive the best possible preparation for their post-baccalaureate plans.

N.B. Despite the University Scholar’s exemption from virtually all core courses, most medical schools require at least six hours of English, and some schools do not accept AP credits for premedical coursework, particularly in English and science. Students should research potential medical schools to determine the specific requirements of each school. Students can make an appointment to speak with a premedical/predental advisor if they have questions about their coursework, especially if they are from out of state.

Premedical & Predental Program    710-3659
Honors Program               710-1119
Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC)    710-3981

Class Registration
Upon completion of all required advising, students will be able to register on Bearweb when registration opens.
**Registration Day**
No advising appointments will occur after registration begins. If you need to make changes with your schedule you should communicate by email with your advising professor so that your advising record reflects your schedule. If Scholars have completed the proper steps for advisement during the weeks preceding registration, they will have the advantage of registering for classes on the first day of scheduled registration. Registration dates are available on Bearweb.

**Drop/Add Process**
A University Scholars director must approve any course changes after registration. For all schedule changes, Scholars should email the director with whom he or she has met for advising. Scholars must include the original, approved schedule, indicating the proposed change(s) and offering a rationale for such change(s). The director will then reply with his/her approval and will send a copy to the UNSC office or update the advising record. **Changing courses without approval is cause for dismissal from the program.** Students should keep a hard copy of any approved changes on file in the event of questions related to proper adherence to this procedure.

**Graduation Petition Process**
Students scheduled to graduate in the following calendar year will receive a graduation card during the summer to be filled out and returned in September. Candidates for graduation will then receive an e-mailed notice from the Arts & Sciences Degree Plan Office instructing them to file a petition to document University Scholars “COMMITTEE APPROVAL” of the graduation class schedule as soon as they have been advised for the graduation semester. Students can obtain the petition form from the College of Arts and Science Degree Plan Office (Burleson 108) or the University Scholars Office (Morrison Hall 203.8). Scholars must list the courses (including course prefixes and course numbers, e.g., ENG 2301) that they will complete for the semester in progress as well as for any additional semesters preceding graduation. After a UNSC director signs this petition, Scholars will return the petition to Burleson 108 for approval. Any change in course planning requires an update to the petition.

**Early Graduation**
The University Scholars Program believes that a committed pursuit of knowledge takes time. Therefore, the program strongly discourages early graduation.
IV. Withdrawal from the UNSC Program

A Scholar will be considered as “withdrawn” from the program in the following situations:
1) A Scholar has notified in writing or via electronic mail the program office or one of the directors of his or her intent to withdraw;
2) A Scholar has failed to consult with an advisor prior to registering for classes for the following semester;
3) A Scholar has made unauthorized course or program changes;
4) A Scholar has failed to attain a 3.5 cumulative GPA with 45 or fewer hours left to graduate;
5) A Scholar has failed to successfully complete junior exit interview or the senior thesis.

In all of the above cases, the Arts and Science Degree Plan Office and the Office of the Dean of the Honors College will be notified that the Scholar has withdrawn. The former Scholar must then declare a major and fulfill all general education and major requirements of the university in order to graduate.

Once a Scholar has withdrawn from the program, he or she cannot be readmitted.

All final decisions regarding University Scholars policy and procedure will reside with the program director.
V. Independent Reading List

The University Scholars reading list has switched to an online format so that the directors can more easily add texts in response to program and student requests. The list can be found on the UNSC website. For convenience, a printed version of the online list can be found below, but students should always consult the online list before making their selections. The online list will be updated periodically as more texts are approved.

The directors strongly urge you to take advantage of acquiring books to complete the University Scholars reading list as a means to begin building your personal library. They realize, however, that finances can prohibit this activity and, in lieu of purchase, here offer sites in which one can acquire some of the texts listed below in electronic form. A great number of classic texts are available as e-books through the Baylor library. You can search for these texts by going to the Baylor Libraries Homepage (http://www.baylor.edu/lib/), clicking on “Books, Articles and More” and then clicking the link to the BearCat Online Catalog. You can then search for texts by using title, author, and other information. You may also search for books from Part I: The Ancient World with the EAWC Electronic Texts Search Engine, http://eawc.evansville.edu/texts/. Finally, the Project Gutenberg website has an extensive collection of e-books available to the public at http://www.gutenberg.net/.

Scholars are not allowed to use texts read in a UNSC Great Texts course (GTX 2301, GTX 2302, or UNSC 3301) for their personal reading lists. Texts read in the BIC courses are also not allowed for use on the list. If, however, only a small portion of the texts are read in class, the remainder can be read for reduced credit, subject to the approval of a director.

A general list for texts used in the UNSC course sequence is included below. If a student reads a book on his or her independent reading list before learning that the text will be used in the student’s UNSC course, the student should consult a director for guidance.

**General Course Texts for GTX 2301 (selections may vary by professor)**

- Homer, *Iliad* (R. Fagles)³
- Homer, *Odyssey* (R. Fagles)³
- The Old Testament³
- Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*¹
- Sophocles, *Oedipus Tyrannus*¹
- Sophocles, *Antigone*¹
- Euripides, *Bacchae*¹ and *Medea*¹
- Plato, *Apology*¹, *Meno*¹, *Phaedo*¹
- Plato, *Republic* (Allan Bloom)³
- Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Urmson/Ross)³
- Lucretius, *On the Nature of Things* (Millford/Fowler)³
- Virgil, *Aeneid* (Fitzgerald)³
- The New Testament³
- St. Augustine, *Confessions* (Ryan)³
General Course Texts for GTX 2302 (selections may vary by professor)
Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy* (Penguin); Aelfred’s Preface (Xerox)
OE *Genesis “B”* (Xerox translation)
OE *Christ and Satan* (Xerox translation)
Thomas Aquinas, selections (Penguin)
Bonaventure, *The Mind’s Road to God* (Houghton-Mifflin)
Dante, *The Divine Comedy* (Penguin)
Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*
Erasmus, *Praise of Folly* (Penguin)
Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian* (Fortress)
Calvin, *Institutes* (selections)
Hobbes, *Leviathan* (selections)
Marlowe, *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*
Bunyan, *Pilgrim’s Progress* (Penguin)
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust* (for each part)

General Course Texts for UNSC 3301 (selections may vary by professor)
Descartes, *Discourse on Method* and *Meditations on First Philosophy*
Montaigne, *Michel de Montaigne Essays*
Pascal, *Pensées* (selections)
Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*
Nietzsche, *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life*
Dostoevsky, *Notes From Underground*
Ellison, *Invisible Man*
Eliot, *The Waste Land, Prufrock and Other Poems*
Kant, *Perpetual Peach and Other Essays*
Marx and Engels, *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 and the Communist Manifesto*
Voltaire, *Candide*
Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*
Waugh, *A Handful of Dust*

Independent Reading List Approved Selections

**Ancient Texts**
Homer
   *Iliad* (3)
   *Odyssey* (3)
Hesiod
   *Works and Days* (1)
   *Theogony* (1)
Herodotus
   Histories 3

Aeschylus
   Agamemnon 1
   Libation Bearers 1
   Eumenides 1
   Prometheus Bound 1

Sophocles
   Oedipus the King 1
   Antigone 1
   Oedipus at Colonus 1
   Ajax 1
   Philoctetes 1
   Women of Trachis 1
   Electra 1

Euripides
   Bacchae 1
   Medea 1
   Iphigenia at Aulis 1
   Trojan Women 1
   Hippolytus 1

Thucydides
   History of the Peloponnesian War 3

Hippocrates
   Medical Writings 2

Aristophanes
   Clouds 1
   Birds 1
   Frongs 1
   Wasps 1
   Lysistrata 1

Plato
   Ion 1
   Euthyphro 1
   Apology 1
   Crito 1
   Meno 1
   Phaedo 2
   Gorgias 2
   Republic 3
   Phaedrus 2
   Symposium 2
   Protagoras 2
   Theatetus 2
   Sophist 2
   Statesman 2
Parmenides
Timaeus

Aristotle
  Categories
  Rhetoric
  Poetics
  On the Soul
  Physics
  Metaphysics
  Nicomachean Ethics
  Politics

Polybius
  Rise of the Roman Empire

Cicero
  On Duties
  On Old Age
  On Friendship
  On the Republic

Lucretius
  On the Nature of Things

Virgil
  The Aeneid
  Eclipses
  Georgics

Horace
  Odes
  The Art of Poetry

Livy
  The History of Rome (Books 1-2)

Seneca
  Essays and Letters

Ovid
  Metamorphoses

Plutarch
  The Age of Alexander: Nine Greek Lives
  Fall of the Roman Republic: Six Lives

Tacitus
  The Annals of Imperial Rome

Epicetetus
  Handbook

Ptolemy
  Almagest

Marcus Aurelius
  Meditations

Galen
  On the Natural Faculties
Plotinus
   *Enneads* ³
St. Augustine
   *On the Teacher* ²
   *On the Free Choice of the Will* ²
   *On Christian Doctrine* ²
   *Confessions* ³
   *City of God* ⁴
Origen
   *Exhortation to Martyrdom* ²
St. Athanasius
   *On the Incarnation of the Word* ²
Eusebius
   *History of the Church* ³
St. Ignatius of Antioch
   *Letters* ¹
St. Gregory of Nyssa
   *Life of Moses* ¹
Confucius
   *Analects* ¹

**Medieval and Renaissance Texts**

Boethius
   *Consolation of Philosophy* ²
Pseudo-Dionysius
   *On the Divine Names* ²
Bede
   *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* ²
St. Benedict
   *Rule of St. Benedict* ¹
Unknown
   *Voyage of St. Brendan* ¹
Unknown
   *Life of Cuthbert* ¹
Unknown
   *Song of Roland* ²
Chretien de Troyes
   *Arthurian Romances* ²
Marie de France
   *Lais* ²
Guillaume de Lorris
   *Romance of the Rose* ¹
Unknown
   *Beowulf* ²
St. Anselm
   *Prayers and Meditations* ¹
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><em>Proslogion</em></td>
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<td>Peter Abelard</td>
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<td>Averroes</td>
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<td>St. Thomas Aquinas</td>
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<td><em>On Being and Essence</em></td>
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<td><em>The Division and Method of the Sciences</em></td>
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<td><em>Treatise on Law</em></td>
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<td><em>Summa Theologica: On Faith</em> (IIaIae, qq. 1-16)*</td>
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<td>Geoffrey Chaucer</td>
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<td><em>Canterbury Tales</em> (1-3)</td>
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<td>Leonardo da Vinci</td>
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<td><em>Notebooks</em></td>
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<td>Desiderius Erasmus</td>
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<td>Nicolaus Copernicus</td>
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<td>Francesco Petrarch</td>
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<td><em>Interior Castle</em></td>
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<td><em>Life of St. Teresa of Avila</em></td>
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<td>Giovanni Boccaccio</td>
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<td>Pico della Mirandola</td>
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<td><em>Oration on the Dignity of Man</em></td>
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Thomas More
   *Utopia*²
Martin Luther
   *On Christian Liberty*²
   *Table Talk*²
   *Discourse on Free Will (against Erasmus)*²
Francois Rabelais
   *Gargantua and Pantagruel*³
John Calvin
   *Institutes of the Christian Religion*³
John Bunyan
   *Pilgrim’s Progress*³
Julian of Norwich
   *Revelations of Divine Love*³
Michel de Montaigne
   *Essays* (selections)¹-³
Miguel de Cervantes
   *Don Quixote*⁴
Edmund Spenser
   *The Faerie Queene*⁴
William Shakespeare
   *Richard II*¹
   *Henry IV*¹
   *Henry V*¹
   *Tempest*¹
   *As You Like It*¹
   *Hamlet*¹
   *Othello*¹
   *Macbeth*¹
   *King Lear*¹
   *Coriolanus*¹
   *Sonnets*¹
   *Measure for Measure*¹
   *Much Ado About Nothing*¹
   *The Winter’s Tale*¹

**Early Modern Texts: 17th and 18th Centuries**
Francis Bacon
   *Novum Organum*³
   *Essays*²
Galileo Galilei
   *The Assayer*²
   *The Starry Messenger*¹
Rene Descartes
  *Discourse on the Method*²
  *Meditations on First Philosophy*²

David Hume
  *Dialogues on Natural Religion*²

Thomas Hobbes
  *Leviathan*³

John Milton
  *Paradise Lost*³
  *Samson Agonistes*²

Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin)
  *The Misanthrope*¹
  *The Miser*¹
  *Tartuffe*¹

Blaise Pascal
  *Pensees* (selections)²

John Locke
  *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*³
  *Second Treatise on Government*²
  *Letter on Toleration*¹

Jean Racine
  *Phedre*¹

G.W. Leibniz
  *Discourse on Metaphysics*²
  *Monadology*¹
  *New Essays on Human Understanding*³

George Berkeley
  *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*³

Francois La Rochefoucauld
  *Maxims*²

Alexander Pope
  *Essay on Man*²
  *Rape of the Lock*²

Giambattista Vico
  *On the Study Methods of Our Time*¹
  *The New Cience*³

Baron de Montesquieu Charles de Secondat)
  *The Spirit of the Laws*³

Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet)
  *Candide*¹

Henry Fielding
  *Tom Jones*³

Samuel Johnson
  *Lives of the English Poets*³

David Hume
  *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*²
Jean-Jacques Rousseau
   *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences* 1
   *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* 2
   *On the Social Contract* 2
   *Emile* 3

Adam Smith
   *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* 3
   *The Wealth of Nations* (abridged) 3

Immanuel Kant
   *Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals* 2
   *What is Enlightenment?* 1
   *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics* 1

James Boswell
   *Life of Johnson* 3

Jonathan Swift
   *A Modest Proposal* 1
   *Gulliver’s Travels* 3

Denis Diderot
   *Rameau’s Nephew* 2

William Blake
   *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* 1

Benjamin Franklin
   *Autobiography* 1

Thomas Jefferson
   *Declaration of Independence* 1

Framers
   *Constitution of the United States* 1

Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay
   *The Federalist Papers* 3

Thomas Paine
   *Common Sense* 1
   *The Rights of Man* 3

**Later Modern Texts: 19th and 20th Centuries**

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
   *Faust* 3

G.W.F. Hegel
   *Introduction to the Philosophy of History* 2

Friederich Schleiermacher
   *On Religion: Speeches Addressed to Its Cultured Despisers* 1

John Henry Newman
   *Idea of a University* 2

William Wordsworth
   *Lyrical Ballads* 2
   *The Prelude* 2
Samuel Taylor Coleridge
  *Biographia Literaria*²
  Selected Poems²
Jane Austen
  *Emma*³
  *Pride and Prejudice*³
  *Mansfield Park*³
Karl von Clausewitz
  *On War*³
Henri Beyle Stendhal
  *The Red and the Black*³
George Gordon (Lord Byron)
  *Don Juan*³
Arthur Schopenhauer
  *Essays*²
Honoré de Balzac
  *Pere Goriot*³
Ralph Waldo Emerson
  *Essays*³
Alexis de Tocqueville
  *Democracy in America* (abridged)³
John Stuart Mill
  *On Liberty*²
  *Utilitarianism*²
  *The Subjection of Women*²
Charles Darwin
  *The Origin of Species*³
Charles Dickens
  *David Copperfield*³
  *Pickwick Papers*³
  *Bleak House*³
Anthony Trollope
  *The Warden*²
  *The Way We Live Now*³
Henry David Thoreau
  *Walden*¹
Karl Marx
  *The Communist Manifesto*
  *Capital* (selections)¹-³
Soren Kierkegaard
  *Either/Or*³
  *Philosophical Fragments*²
  *Fear and Trembling*²
George Eliot
  *Middlemarch*³
  *The Mill on the Floss*³
Abraham Lincoln
   *Selected Speeches*²
   
Herman Melville
   *Moby Dick*³

Fyodor Dostoevsky
   *Crime and Punishment*⁴
   *Notes from Underground*¹
   *The Possessed (The Devils)*³
   *The Brothers Karamazov*⁴

Gustave Flaubert
   *Madame Bovary*³

Leo Tolstoy
   *War and Peace*⁴
   *Anna Karenina*³

Henrik Ibsen
   *Four Major Plays*²

Friedrich Nietzsche
   *The Birth of Tragedy*²
   *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History*²
   *On the Genealogy of Morals*³
   *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*²
   *The Gay Science*³
   *Beyond Good and Evil*³
   *Twilight of the Idols*¹

Anton Chekhov
   *The Major Plays*³

Matthew Arnold
   *Culture and Anarchy*²

Henry James
   *Portrait of a Lady*³
   *The Ambassadors*³
   *The Europeans*²

Vladimir Lenin
   *What is to be Done?*³

William James
   *The Varieties of Religious Experience*²
   *Essays in Pragmatism*²

Sigmund Freud
   *On the Interpretation of Dreams*³
   *New Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*³
   *Future of an Illusion*²
   *Civilization and Its Discontents*²

Georges Sorel
   *Reflections on Violence*³

Thorstein Veblen
   *Theory of the Leisure Class*³
Max Weber  
*The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*³

George Bernard Shaw  
*Plays*³

Bertrand Russell  
*The Problems of Philosophy*²  
“Why I am Not a Christian”¹

G.K. Chesterton  
*Orthodoxy*²

Karl Barth  
*The Humanity of God*²

Marcel Proust  
*Remembrance of Things Past*¹⁻⁴

T.S. Eliot  
*The Waste Land and Other Poems*¹  
*Four Quartets*¹  
“Tradition and the Individual Talent”¹

Thomas Mann  
*The Magic Mountain*³  
*Death in Venice*³

Albert Einstein  
*The Meaning of Relativity*²

James Joyce  
*Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*²  
*Ulysses*³  
*Finnegans Wake*¹

Franz Kafka  
*Metamorphoses*²

Alexander Solzhenitsyn  
*Cancer Ward*²

Virginia Woolf  
*Orlando*³  
*A Room of One’s Own*²  
*To the Lighthouse*³

Eugene O’Neill  
*A Long Day’s Journey into Night*³

Ludwig Wittgenstein  
*Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*²

Martin Heidegger  
*Basic Writings*²

Hans-Georg Gadamer  
*Truth and Method*³

R.G. Collingwood  
*An Autobiography*²
Jean-Paul Sartre
    *No Exit*¹
    *Existentialism is a Humanism*¹

Albert Camus
    *The Stranger*²
    *The Plague*³

Samuel Beckett
    *Waiting for Godot*¹

Frederick Douglass
    *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*¹

Ralph Ellison
    *Invisible Man*³

Richard A. Wright
    *Native Son*³

Zora Neale Hurston
    *Their Eyes Were Watching God*³

Octavio Paz
    *The Labyrinth of Solitude*³

Carlos Fuentes
    *The Death of Artemio Cruz*³

William Faulkner
    *The Sound and the Fury*³
    *Light in August*³
    *The Bear*¹

Toni Morrison
    *Beloved*³

Simone de Beauvoir
    *The Second Sex* (selections)¹⁻⁴

Evelyn Waugh
    *Brideshead Revisited*³

Graham Greene
    *The Heart of the Matter*³

Thomas Merton
    *The Seven Storey Mountain*³

Flannery O'Connor
    *The Complete Stories*³
    *Wise Blood*²

Thomas Kuhn
    *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*²

Leo Strauss
    *Natural Right and History*³
    *“What is Political Philosophy?”*¹

C.S. Lewis
    *The Abolition of Man*¹
    *Till We Have Faces*³
Michel Foucault
  *Discipline and Punish* 3
  “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History” 1
Jacques Derrida
  “Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences” 1
Walker Percy
  *The Moviegoer* 2
Simone Weil
  *Waiting for God* 2
Martin Luther King
  “Letter from the Birmingham Jail” 1
John Rawls
  *Political Liberalism* 3
Alasdair MacIntyre
  *After Virtue* 3
Stephen Hawking
  *The Universe in a Nutshell* 3
James D. Watson
  *The Double Helix* 3

**Additional Guidelines for Exit Interviews**

The Exit Interviews are conversations. Like all conversations, they take on a life of their own. There is no single formula for participating in them. Prudence and judgment are indispensable. But since the Exit Interviews are the sole means by which the Program can assess the depth and seriousness of the Scholar’s engagement with the texts on their Independent Reading List, some general guidelines may be helpful.

At the minimum, Scholars will be able to address the following questions with respect to any text on their list:

1. **What is the book about as a whole?**
   *What problem is the book primarily concerned with? How does it solve its problem? What are the questions the author is asking? How does he or she answer them?*

2. **What is being said in the various parts of the book, and how?**
   More discursive texts: *What is the argument of the book? What are its starting points? What are its conclusions? How does it get from its starting points to its conclusions? (Simply getting the argument right can be difficult. But its importance cannot be overemphasized, since understanding a text’s argument is a prerequisite for intelligently evaluating or criticizing it.)*

   Less discursive texts: *What are the major scenes that make up the story? How do these hang together to make up a coherent plot? Who are the principal characters? How do they interact? What is the internal logic that animates the work?*
3. **Is the book true, in whole or in part? Is it a convincing representation of human experience?**

   *What in the book illuminates the problems that it is trying to solve?*
   *Is there anything in the book that does not illuminate its problems in the best possible way?*
   *To what extent does it accurately capture or otherwise shed light on our experience? In what ways does it distort or falsify it?*

4. **What of it?**

   *Why does the book matter? From the author’s point of view? From your point of view? If the book’s way of looking at things is persuasive, what does this imply about how we should think differently? How we should live differently?*

Scholars who want to learn more about particular strategies for reading texts in ways that address these questions are invited to consult Mortimer Adler and Charles Van Doren, *How to Read a Book*. For insight into understanding texts as answers to questions, see R.G. Collingwood, *An Autobiography* (especially chapter 5 and chapter 7).

The examining committee may or may not ask the above questions. It may or may not ask them in the forms stated above. But Scholars who are capable of answering these questions with respect to every text that they read will be far more likely to excel in addressing the questions they are asked.

To attain the appropriate level of excellence, the Scholar will need to prepare systematically over the course of the (approximately) 30 months that lie between the initial creation of the list and the Exit Interview. In addition to highlighting important passages in the text and writing notes in the margins, the Program recommends that the Scholar keep track of his or her ongoing reflections in a notebook. The notebook should contain a page-length outline of every text the Scholar reads, so he or she can recall its form and content at a moment’s glance. It ought to contain a record of attempts to describe and isolate the main problems and questions of each text. Names of the major characters, and the most important points about them, should be noted. The Scholar’s notebook will be indispensible in preparing for the interview. Although it is appropriate to bring the notebooks to the interview; he or she may not consult the notebook during the course of the interview itself. The purpose of the notebook is to enable Scholars to organize their thoughts and prepare more effectively for the interview.

To a large extent, the performance of a Scholar on the Exit Interview is a function of prior preparation. Scholars normally undergo the Exit Interview in the spring of their Junior year. Those whose performance is not satisfactory may schedule another interview during the fall of their Senior year. If a Scholar’s performance is judged unsatisfactory the second time, he or she will be automatically dismissed from the University Scholars Program.
Sample

Reading List

Name: Betty Baylor
Entry Semester: Fall XXXX
Exit Interview Semester: Spring XXXX

Student Signature ____________________________ Date ____________
Director Signature __________________________ Date ____________

Ancient Texts
Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound* ¹
Aristophanes, *Clouds* ¹
Aristotle, *Physics* ³
Confucius, *Analects* ¹
Epicetetus, *Handbook* ¹
Hippocrates, *Bacchae* ¹
Ovid, *Metamorphoses* ³
Plato, *Meno* ¹
Plato, *Symposium* ²
Thucydidest, *History of the Peloponnesian War* ³

Total: 20 points

Medieval and Renaissance Texts
Desiderius Erasmus, *In Praise of Folly* ¹
Leonardo da Vinci, *Notebooks* ²
Martin Luther, *Discourse on Free Will (against Erasmus)* ²
Michel de Montaigne, *Essays* ³
Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince* ²
Nicolaus Copernicus, *On the Revolution of the Spheres* ²
St. Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise on Law* ²
Thomas More, *Utopia* ²
Unknown, *Beowulf* ²
William Shakespeare, *Hamlet* ¹
William Shakespeare, *Much Ado About Nothing* ¹

Total: 20 points

Modern
Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations* (abridged) ³
Albert Einstein, *The Meaning of Relativity* ²
Benjamin Franklin, *Autobiography* ¹
Penny M. Le Couteur and Jay Burreson, *Napoleon’s Buttons: How 17 Molecules Changed History* ³
Sigmund Freud, *On the Interpretation of Dreams* ³
Thomas Jefferson, *Declaration of Independence* ¹
Thomas Paine, *Common Sense* ¹
Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* ³

Total: 20 points
VII. University Scholars Petitions

**Form 32b: Petition for Probationary Semester**
The form is required when a University Scholar’s cumulative GPA falls below 3.5 at any point in his or her program.

Scholars who meet this condition will submit a petition for a probationary semester. The petition must include specific and realistic plans for improving the GPA to acceptable levels within a specific number of semesters. A meeting with a director of the program may also be required. Scholars who have completed 75 credit hours must meet with a director to ensure that the plan for raising the GPA is feasible and reasonable.

**Form 99j: GPA Acknowledgement**
The University Scholars Program will not allow any Scholar to graduate with less than a 3.5 grade point average. Any student who falls below a 3.5 grade point average after completing any semester at Baylor University will be required to submit the GPA Acknowledgement. Scholars in this situation after completing 75 credit Baylor hours must meet with a director with the Petition for Probationary Semester document in hand to ensure that the plan for raising the GPA is feasible and reasonable.

**Form 403a: Reduced Course Load Request**
University Scholars are expected to take a minimum of 15 hours each semester. To be exempted from the 15 hour rule, a student must submit the Reduced Course Load Request form to request a reduced course load with a detailed rationale explaining the reason for this reduction. Reduced Course Load Requests are not automatically granted. Reduced Course Load Requests will seldom be granted more than once within a Scholar’s four year program.

**Form 403b: Exit Interview Extension**
University Scholars are required to complete their Exit Interview during the spring of their junior year. To request an extension, a Scholar must complete the Exit Interview Extension Form and provide the rationale for the request. Exit Interview Extensions are not automatically granted. Scholars must enroll in the UNSC3001 course during the semester they intend to complete the exit interview.
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Petition for Probationary Semester

THIS FORM MUST BE WRITTEN LEGIBLY or MAY BE TYPED. IT MUST BE
RETURNED BY EMAIL, MAIL OR FAX TO THE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS OFFICE
WITHIN TEN BUSINESS DAYS OF THE RECEIPT OF THE PROBATIONARY
NOTICE.

Date__________ Name___________________________ Student ID________________
Your Date of Birth___/___/___ Total earned hours __________ Earned BU hours __________
Current cumulative GPA____________
Most recent fall semester GPA __________ Most recent spring semester GPA _____________
Concentration(s) _____________________________________________________________
Post-Baccalaureate plan(s) ______________________________________________________
Email address __________________________________________________________________

Your MERIT Scholarships/Awards may be affected by your GPA at BU.

In the following space, please detail your plan to bring your GPA back to the 3.5 and above
level. Your explanation should begin with your current semester/GPA and indicate your
strategy and realistic expectation of an improving GPA each semester until you are in
compliance with the University Scholars program requirement. Please be specific.

If your petition is accepted, you will be held accountable for what you propose. An
additional meeting with a director of the program may be required.

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Petition approved ______ not approved ______
Director _________________________ Date ____________________________
I, (print name) ______________________________, understand and acknowledge that, in order to remain in good standing within the University Scholars Program of Baylor University, I must maintain an overall grade point average of no less than 3.5. I further understand that, if my overall grade point average falls below 3.5 at the end of my final semester, I will not be allowed to graduate.

____________________________________  ______________________________
Signature                                  Date

Updated 1.18.2013
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Reduced Course Load Request

Date of Request: _____________________________________
Student ID: __________________________________________
Name: _______________________________________________
Current Classification: _________________________________
Email Address: _______________________________________

Justification for Request:
   Study Abroad (list country and semester you will study abroad below):
   ___________________________________________________
      MCAT
      Medical
      Other

Semester requested to reduce course load:
   Spring _______    Fall _____________

Rationale to support your request (required):
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

(For Office Use Only)

Request for Reduced Course Load:
   Approved        Not Approved

___________________________________  ___________________________
Director, University Scholars Program  Date

Updated 1.18.2013
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Exit Interview Extension

Date of Request: _____________________________________
Student ID: _________________________________________
Name: ______________________________________________
Current Classification: _________________________________
Email Address: _______________________________________

Justification for Request:
Study Abroad (list country and the semester you will study abroad below):

____________________________________________________
MCAT
Medical
Other

Semester requested to defer the Exit Interview to:
Fall ____________  Spring ________________

Rationale to support your request (required):
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

(For Office Use Only)

Request for Exit Interview Extension:
Approved  Not Approved

_________________________________________  ______________________
Director, University Scholars Program  Date

Your interview will be scheduled for:
______________________________________
(month)  (year)

Updated 1.18.2013