Introduction to the Honors Program

Welcome to the Honors Program! The Honors Program faculty and staff are glad you are at Baylor, and we look forward to getting to know you this fall. If you should have any question about the Honors Program over the summer, please don’t hesitate to contact us at your earliest convenience (hpi@baylor.edu, or albert.beck@baylor.edu). Our offices are located in Morrison Hall 203.

Freshman Reading Project:

In preparation for the fall, you will participate in the Freshman Reading Project. Each year the Honors Program selects a book to be read by all incoming first-year Honors students. The Freshman Reading Project promotes community through the common experience of reading and discussing a thought-provoking text. Please read the book before arriving at Baylor. Once on campus, you will engage in a discussion with other students about the themes and ideas gleaned from your reading. Completion of the Freshman Reading Project is required to remain in the Honors Program.

This year’s reading, *Wit*, is the winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Drama Desk Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, and various other awards. Here is a summary of the book taken from the Barnes and Noble web site:

> Margaret Edson's powerfully imagined play examines what makes life worth living through her exploration of one of existence's unifying experiences—mortality—while she also probes the vital importance of human relationships. What we as her audience take away from this remarkable drama is a keener sense that, while death is real and unavoidable, our lives are ours to cherish or throw away—a lesson that can be both uplifting and redemptive. As the playwright herself puts it, "The play is not about doctors or even about cancer. It's about kindness, but it shows arrogance. It's about compassion, but it shows insensitivity."

You can purchase *Wit* at the Baylor Bookstore, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and a variety of other book retailers.

Margaret Edson, *Wit: A Play* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999)