Summer Honors 2026 Courses

Morning (9:00 – 11:00)

May It Please the Court: Mock Trial and Law at Lee
Instructor: Mark Scully, PhD
"May it please the Court." So begins every opening argument in an American courtroom. In this course, students will step into a fictional criminal case, build arguments for the prosecution or defense, examine witnesses, and ultimately place their client's fate in the hands of a jury of their peers, experiencing the satisfaction or the agony of the verdict.

Igniting the World for Change: The Bible, Transformational Teaching, and You
Instructors: Jason Robinson, EdD, and Justin Walker, PhD
Who said learning can't be fun? Exciting experiments, engaging demonstrations, and enriching discussions will occur throughout the course. The class will employ a variety of techniques to excite and engage students in the classroom setting. During the first week of class, we will examine the American classroom and discuss various strategies for teaching/learning that have been beneficial and those that must be changed. During the second week of class, we'll examine the idea of change and discuss events that changed the world, the nation, and the individual.

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Deeper Meaning of C.S. Lewis's Fantasy World
Instructors: Donna Summerlin, PhD, and Chad Schrock, PhD
You probably remember encountering Narnia as a place of brave children, talking animals, and the self-sacrificial love of Aslan. But there's so much more to these stories than you may have noticed the first time. In this class, we'll return to C.S. Lewis's classic series to explore the deeper themes, powerful symbols, and lasting truths that make Narnia more than just a childhood favorite. Along the way, we'll trace how Lewis's faith shaped the characters, the storylines, and the heart of Narnia itself. Whether it's your first read or your fifth, you'll leave with a new appreciation for the world beyond the wardrobe.

By the Renewing of Your Mind: Worship, Imagination, and the Christian Life
Instructor: Lorinda Roberts, DEdMin
How does our worship shape our desires? And how do our desires shape our character? Does worship end at church? Or does worship continue into the everyday world of workplaces, classrooms, sports arenas, cinemas, and shopping malls? This course applies to the Christian life insights drawn from the work of James K. A. Smith, author of You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit. Students will actively examine and reflect upon ways in which society and culture shape our affections daily. Each class will acquaint students with a new spiritual discipline intended to form our affection toward Christ.

Christian Influencers: OG to Modern Day

Instructor: Louis Morgan, PhD

This course allows students to trace the impact of key Christian leaders whose lives and teachings have shaped the faith from its earliest days to the present. Students will explore the influence of figures such as Jesus, John Wesley, Mary McLeod Bethune, C. S. Lewis, Corrie ten Boom, Henri Nouwen, and contemporary leaders, examining how their writings, practices, and public witness can inform students' personal spiritual formation and shape engagement within their communities today. Through this survey of "original" and modern-day influencers, students will consider how these leaders modeled spiritual depth, courage, creativity, and service in their own contexts. Class sessions will incorporate videos, lectures, brief readings, and group discussions.

Called to Care: Discover Nursing

Instructor: Shannon McBrayer, MSN

This is a dynamic and hands-on course designed for students who feel drawn to helping others and are curious about a career in nursing. Through engaging activities, real-world case studies, and interactive simulations, students will explore the many ways nurses bring healing and hope, from the hospital bedside to community clinics and crisis response. Along the way, students will learn about the rich history of nursing, from pioneers like Florence Nightingale to today's nurse innovators, and reflect on how their own gifts and passions might lead them to a calling in healthcare. This immersive course offers a meaningful look into the heart of nursing, where science, compassion, and service come together. Whether you're seriously considering nursing or simply exploring, this course will challenge, inspire, and help you discover where you are called to care.

You, Us, and Disney+

Instructor: Jerome Hammond, PhD

Why do people behave and think the way that they do? How are individuals connected to larger social forces? These are key questions that the social sciences of psychology and sociology seek to explain. This course introduces foundational theories in these disciplines and illustrates them using popular content on Disney+. Students will extend their knowledge by applying the concepts to their lives and the world around them.

Design it. Print it. Display it. Exploring Engineering Through Making

Instructor: Marcie Williams, PhD

Students will bring ideas to life by designing and 3D printing functional objects—from precision-fit fidgets to small mechanical systems. Students will learn how engineers move from concept to prototype through testing and iteration. The course concludes with a final project in which students create a display-ready piece that highlights the capabilities of 3D printing and demonstrates a range of design and fabrication techniques.

Afternoon (1:00 – 3:00)

Music for Worship: The Role of Music and the Musician in Gathered Worship
Instructor: Cameron Weatherford, DMA
This course will briefly explore the four essential aspects of worship leadership: theology, discipleship, musicianship, and leadership. Students will study the basics of why music is such a useful and biblical expression of worship and the necessary practical skills for worship leadership. Students will be challenged to build and lead worship music that is biblically and musically sound.

Disaster Health and Survival: When Others Run Out, We Run In
Instructor: Jake Fast, MBA, MEd
When disaster strikes, the natural inclination for many is to get away from the emergent situation as quickly as possible to avoid potential danger. For others, it is understood that only during the worst of circumstances can the most significant help be offered, and these individuals are willing to run into the chaos to assist those in need. This course will explore the fundamental skills and knowledge for health and survival in times of disaster to best prepare students to run into disaster while others run out.

Hype & Hashtags: Tracking Marketing Success in a Digital World
Instructor: Holly Perleoni, DBA
Why do some brands go viral while others flop? In this course, you will uncover the secrets behind today's most buzzworthy marketing campaigns, from TikTok trends to influencer partnerships. Learn how to track digital success using real-world tools and insights, explore the strategies behind social media fame, decode what makes content click, and create your own hype-worthy campaign. This class is your backstage pass to the digital marketing world.

The Film Experience: Understanding Cultural Language through the Cinema
Instructors: Matt Fisher, MFA, and Jeff Salyer, PhD
The popular arts are the cultural language of Western societies. Perhaps the most preeminent "speech" can be found in motion pictures. This course will examine the history, modes of production, and messages of the film industry. Discussion topics include interpreting meaning, film theory, methods of production, blockbusters, independent cinema, redemption, and cultural impact.

Keeping Secrets Secret: An Introduction to Cryptography

Instructor: Richard Moy, PhD

Throughout history, cryptography has played a crucial role in the outcomes of wars, political endeavors, and royal conspiracies. Pivotal moments from history will set the stage for our exploration of some of the classical methods of message encryption and decryption in cryptography. To explore these methods, we will develop the mathematical tools that are necessary for us to encrypt and decrypt our own secret messages.

A Peer into Life Unseen: A Hands-On Journey Through Science

Instructors: Sherry Kasper, PhD, and Dana Perry, MS

Step into the fascinating world beneath the surface of life and discover the incredible complexity of God's creation. In this hands-on science course, students will investigate the anatomy of several organisms through real dissections and interactive laboratory experiences. As you explore how organs and body systems are designed to work together, you'll gain a deeper understanding of physiology, function, and the beauty of living systems. Whether you are interested in medicine, biology, veterinary science, or simply love discovering how things work, this course offers an unforgettable opportunity to experience science up close.

Christian Leadership: What's the Deal and Why Should You Care?

Instructors: Mark Walker, PhD, and Wes Lutes, MA

Compelling and approachable, this class is designed to help college-bound students step confidently into their next chapter. Through honest conversations, practical tools, peer-to-peer networking, and a whole lot of real-life wisdom, this course explores the idea that while you may not be called to lead everything, you just might be called to lead something. And if that's true, it's worth learning how to lead well with character, clarity, and courage.

Embodied Artificial Intelligence: Robots that Think, Sense, and Act!

Instructor: Michael Franklin, PhD

Curious about the world of mechatronics (the intersection of mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and computer science)? Want to build robots? Teach them to move, see, and interact with humans, objects, and other robots? In this course, you'll build and program robots, teach them to perform challenging tasks, and explore how computers, robotics, and artificial intelligence see and interpret the world.