Honors Humanities Community Charter 2016-2017

As a community of individuals with shared interests who interact in common spaces, we have responsibilities to one another, to our community, and to the values of the Humanities. In order to strengthen the bonds that unite us, we agree to the following principles that will guide our living and learning together.

1. The word “humanity” has several meanings, all of which describe our endeavors. It means “all human beings as a group,” “kindness toward others,” “empathy for other people’s experiences, cultures, religions, and beliefs” and “a form of knowledge about human experience.” In our interactions in classes and in Anne Arundel Hall, we will as a group practice these values of the humanities in our relations with one another. We will respect both what we have in common, as well as what makes each of us unique. We will share our talents to help each other inside and outside of class.

2. Although we will each go separate ways much of the time, we will regularly come together for shared experiences. Some of these will be part of our classes, some will be associated with our Keystone projects, and some will be community events. Since we understand that we cannot all attend everything, we adopt the following parameters for participation. Over the coming year each of us will:
   A. Attend the following mandatory program events:
      1. The program kickoff meeting on September 7th at 8 p.m.
      2. A presidential election debate and discussion on October 19th.
      3. A program mock debate of current political issues on Sunday, November 6th.
      5. The Keystone Symposium on Saturday, April 22, 2017.
   B. In addition, attend at least two events each semester sponsored by the HHUM Council: Happy Hours, Coffee House Evenings, parties such as the Hippie Party, the Holiday Party, or Mardi Gras and the like, or excursions such as the Pumpkin Patch visit or the Great Falls hike.
C. In addition, during the fall semester, attend one of the following four events in the “Democracy Then and Now” series. We will provide sign-ups for each of these events to facilitate a community of our students attending each event.

1. Poet Claudia Rankine on the role of public education and art in the making of American democracy, Thursday, September 29th, 5:30 p.m., Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Gildenhorn Recital Hall.

2. “Public and Personal Morality in a Democracy,” Dr. Susan Dwyer, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 5th, Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Building.

3. “The Architecture of Thomas Jefferson for a New Democracy,” Dr. Cynthia R. Field and Dr. Isabelle J. Gournay, Architecture Auditorium, 0204 School of Architecture, Monday, October 24th, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

4. “Of Slaves, Sharecroppers, and Convicts: Unsettling Clemson University’s History,” Dr. Rhondda Thomas, Tawes 2115, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Monday, November 7th.

D. During the spring semester, attend one of the performances or museum visits planned in conjunction with HHUM 106. Freshmen enrolled in this course will attend all of these events but we want sophomores to join them for one event.

We will regularly list available events under each of these categories on our website through a link titled “Program Events” on the main page and will establish a system through which each student will self-report a record of activities at the end of each semester. Events that take place in class or during orientation week will not count toward these numbers.

3. Outside of our courses, we will devote time to a Keystone project that excites and challenges us. We will all participate in Keystone labs and make steady progress on our projects. We will work to help each other develop and complete our Keystone projects.

4. When we have suggestions and concerns about our program and community, we will share these with Council representatives and with the staff of the program. We will work collaboratively to improve Honors Humanities for current and future members of the program. We will strive to make Honors Humanities worthy of our recommendation to potential future students.

5. We will contribute in whatever ways we can to sharing information about Honors Humanities with potential students and to recruiting new members of our community.