

# Brittany Sheldon

Composition 1, Honors  
Composition 2, Honors  
General Geology, Honors  
History of American People Since 1877,  
Honors

**May 11th, 2019**



What can I say about Honors? In my honors courses, the class sizes were much smaller compared to most others. It was easier for my professors to often engage with my peers and myself one-on-one. We got individualized help whenever we needed it, on top of daily interaction. Having smaller classes also help my professors and peers hold myself accountable. Everyone will know you did not do the reading when there's only maximum of twenty students in the whole room and you are the only one who does not share. This caused us to hold ourselves more accountable. For ourselves but also for the rest of the class. The Honors Program holds the students to a higher expectation. Having the opportunity to be in smaller classes, you have to be responsible. Doing group work can be tricky if one or more of the students are unable to participate. I appreciated this higher standard, and I want to thank all of my peers for having participated during my time in the Honors Program courses.

During my Honors General Geology course, we were able to learn all of our lessons in person out in the beautiful landscape of Tanyard Creek in Bella Vista. Our professor performed a scavenger hunt throughout our hike as she incorporated the use of new technology on phones and watches into our lesson. We were able to take pictures to help with our lesson, use GPS on our phones, and more. My teacher definitely put forth effort to excite and yet challenge her students. The whole trip was both educationally fulfilling but also beautiful.

During my time at Northwest Arkansas Community College, I also attended Honors English Composition 1 and 2. The small class sizes made it possible to all meet with our professor one-on-one to talk about our final work for the term. Not only were the class sizes smaller, but there were more opportunities offered to us. I was able to attend National History Judging Day twice thanks to these courses and this program. It was truly inspiring to see such dedicated students striving for something. I do hope to keep attending in the future; for many reasons.

I was able to learn through these children learning, and I think that was a beautiful thing. Public schools and colleges offer diverse learning, but when it's not shared, you still only see a select few perspectives. By attending this fun and exciting competition, I was able to see through the eyes of the children I was working with and even the fellow judge that I coached alongside. I was able to walk with a friendly gentleman who was quite the conversationalist and had many stories. It was truly an uplifting experience all around. Plus, who doesn't love free food, coffee, and drinks?

I was encouraged to explore perspectives as well through my composition classes. My professors offered chances to share our work where we expressed and interpreted our takes on the works we had read. It was amazing to see how my peers had read the same work as I had, at the same time, and still understood it in completely different manners than myself. I was able to see through the eyes of people from different cultures, age ranges, high schools, etc... Both of my professors allowed for a creative piece that we were expected to write, or create, at some point in our semester long course, and those were my personal favorites. We were asked to open our minds, delve deep into what we had been taught, and express whatever we needed to through our work.

Not to brag, but I believe I had the best Honors Composition 2 teacher. She was insightful, knowledgeable, passionate, and my personal favorite, she used amazing text to work from. I had already read one of the books that we discussed in this class, but

my view on what it said, was entirely different. My professor strived to make the class truly question their stance on things, but in the most nurturing and as classified way as you wanted. In order to not deter the students from getting discouraged with the critical feedback, you have to learn to be professional and encouraging with your words and body language. It's important to always intend for your words to motivate. I have a background of management in the workforce, and this is a skill that I am thankful to have learned by attending honors classes at my college.

The honors courses offered are very convenient for my schedule, as I work full-time and have moved quite frequently throughout my 3 years of attendance. My History of American People Since 1877 course is taken online, and I have enjoyed it thoroughly. My teacher still writes us a summation of his thoughts and an outline for guidance. I appreciate the attention that is still offered although I have never met my professor face to face. He is prompt when replying to emails, and has taught me how to be professional when formatting questions and observations.

In a history class, you are forced to face your own opinions on events and future statistics. Posting discussion boards where other students are allowed to compare and contrast their stances and express their consideration to the text discussed. We live in a country and world that changes every day; fast. This course has encouraged open-mindedness and consideration of others, while defending one's own beliefs and morals. Our professor did an excellent job, tying in our President of 2019 in the most respectful manner. He pushed boundaries without crossing lines. It was truly a refreshing thing to witness my peers get along so well.

Unfortunately, when I enrolled in the World Religions course, I was under the understanding that it was the honors course. Although I was mistaken, I met a girl named Zowe. We were sitting on complete opposite sides of the classroom, but after just a few moments of silence she started talking to me. Right before class started, I decided to move to the table with Zowe. That was the day I met my forever friend.

Zowe became a part of the Honors Program and I was also a member. We bonded greatly through the years. We studied Spanish together and attended events together, such as the Christmas Party Secret Santa! I have had a blast meeting new people in this program, and making lifelong friends! Zowe and I have grown nothing but stronger together. We held each other accountable, kept each other on track through sickness and life. There were semesters that I had school supplies, thanks to Zowe. I love all that NWACC has blessed me with, throughout my years of attendance; however, I am *truly* grateful for her and this program for bringing us closer together.

My advice to future new members would be, branch out. There are a lot of opportunities offered through this program and passing them up would be a shame. You have nothing to lose by trying new things. These classes intend for you to use a creative mind, and it is important to think *outside* the box. But aside from the learning aspect, you will meet the most amazing people!

## Bagana - Volcano Report

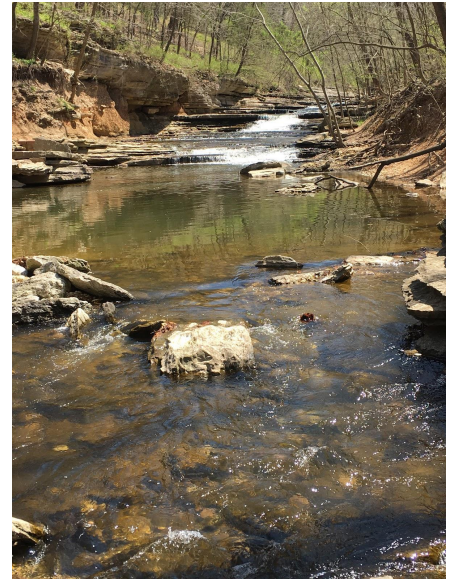
Brittany Sheldon  
Professor Phillips  
Honors General Geology  
Spring Semester 2018



Honors General Geology Assignment, where we were able to track an active volcano of our choice throughout the semester. My volcano erupted 3 times and it was fascinating to learn why and how these natural events take place.



These were just a couple of the pictures that I was able to capture at the beautiful landscape of Tanyard Creek. Students were sent on an educational scavenger hunt to find natural processes such as weathering.



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Sheldon 1

Brittany Sheldon

Megan Looney

Survey of World Literature from 1650

September 23, 2018

Should I be laughing?

My Honor Composition 1 Professor allowed us to take a more creative but heartfelt approach on one of our later pieces of work in the semester. Students were asked to pick something they were passionate about that was discussed in the stories we read and approach it. I loved the creative freedom but as well as the productive, encouraging feedback from the professor.