

English Honours Newsletter

Courses and Experiences in English and Dutch, period B, 2020

This newsletter is intended for anyone who wants to follow a course, do a project, or participate in an Honours experience in English, and it gives Dutch speakers an overview of what is happening across the HU in Dutch too.

For more info and updates on most of the Dutch and English courses and experiences listed in the overviews below, see <https://husite.nl/huhonours/> and click on “Verbreiding” and then “startend in period B” (starting in period B) or “Nieuws” (news). The courses and experiences in English usually have English titles.

If you would like to join the Honours Community, send a short email to tomas.pollard@hu.nl and you will be added to the email list and MS teams page.

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Update on Honours Happenings

The Honours program continues even in times of corona, and, surprisingly, there is a lot going on for the takers. There are two new offerings: 1) an interdisciplinary experience with History and 2) “innovatie snoepwinkel”, a new course in Dutch.

Next to that, the English language Honours group is **organizing a English Honours VAC group** that meets twice a year to give HU Honours more input on what types of courses, activities and experiences we can add to the Honours community. If you would like to be in the Honours VAC that will most likely meet online during the corona crisis, please email Tomas Pollard (tomas.pollard@hu.nl) about your interest.

The last six months Sam du Mosch, HU student majoring in English education, has been organizing Political Junkies at the HU as an Honours project. Most likely you know about this project as you have been flooded by spam, I mean emails with PR on this project, or you may have even seen one of the three articles in Trajectum on it this year. The Political Junkies is a group of HU students, staff, and a handful of outsiders who are interested in the US election in 2020. Dutch experts and American Studies professors have been visiting regularly to share their insights every week on the 24 candidates running to become the Democratic nominee for president and the media circus around the two nominees for president, Biden and Trump. The guest speakers were funded by Podium, Gemeenschapsvorming, English, and History, although a few spoke for free at the start. Speakers included Dutch journalists and researchers: Willem Post, Koen Petersen, Tom Kleijn, Victor Vlam, Raymond Mens, Sara Polak, Sofie van den Enk, Michiel Vos, and Karlijn van Houwelingen. After the election, Charles Groenhuijsen and Laila Frank will help us make sense of the repercussions of the outcome. Sam found and contacted the speakers using a list with a handful of suggestions from Tomas and a much better list compiled by him. He has focused a lot of energy making sure that the online media worked correctly for this project and finding a revue for its production after the corona crisis started in March. Mainly to make the speakers comfortable, Sam invited 9 students or staff to the HU Domstad each week who greatly enjoyed all the high quality free drinks there. As a moderator, Sam had the opportunity to interview Tom Kleijn during an online edition of Political Junkies in October. In all, it was a very diverse, intellectually stimulating experience for all participants including a few journalism students who wanted to network with the journalists.



Sam du Mosch with journalist Tom Kleijn during Political Junkies in October 2020

Many other Honour students earned stars last year after the corona outbreak for Critical Thinking and Global Citizenship, Crossroads, Debating in English, and other courses. The Honours coaches have learned a lot on how to teach Honours online, and they are looking forward to teaching online until the corona crisis is over.

Let Tomas know if you wish to discuss ideas for Honours projects or courses or if you wish to help organize or be in the English Honours VAC. If you would like to participate in a Podium Meet Up Club for Honours, let Tomas know and we can sign up for free snacks and drinks on Thursdays in week 5 of each period (see its description on the last page). Perhaps we could take advantage of this time for the Honours VAC group too.

More on Political Junkies by Sam du Mosch

In January 2020, Tomas Pollard and I talked about organizing something for the US elections. It started as an idea for organizing something for the Postmodernity group, an Honours course taught by Tomas. I asked him if I could organize an Honours project about the US elections. It was really great to have this experience and learn very useful skills by having the opportunity to organize a total of nineteen sessions with well-known experts on US politics and interview some of the speakers. I wanted the sessions to feature guest speakers. In order for this to be possible, I applied for funding at the fund Gemeenschapsvorming. I had to pitch the idea of multiple sessions with guest speakers and funding for a breakfast and books by the speakers that we could not. Gemeenschapsvorming approved the budget, and funding came from the English and History department as well. Luuk van Loon put me in touch with people at Trajectum, who wrote an article about the project. Setting this up really taught me how to organize and how to adapt to new situations when organizing something. It also taught me a lot about the whole organizational structure of the school and how to work with people from the organization. It also taught me that I really like to organize. The first session was on February 6 where Tomas was the guest speaker. The following weeks until March 12, there was a session every Thursday morning, with Victor Vlam, Raymond Mens, Tom Kleijn and Koen Petersen. However, the school closed, so I organized the sessions online instead via Microsoft Teams, with Willem Post, Michiel Vos and Sara Polak among others. A member of the Gemeenschapsvorming commission that approved the funding, named Olga Dijkkamp, really liked the idea and wanted to provide funding through Podium, a new initiative for culture and debate for nine sessions leading up to the general election. These sessions started in September and people could attend at HU Domstad, where there could be an audience of nine people and where it was streamed via Microsoft Teams for an online audience.

Note: Students can apply for funding for guest speakers (Podium) or community building (Gemeenschapsvorming) for an individual project or to explore an interest in a topic that they and others may want to see fully explored. Please see an Honours coach if you need support requesting funding.

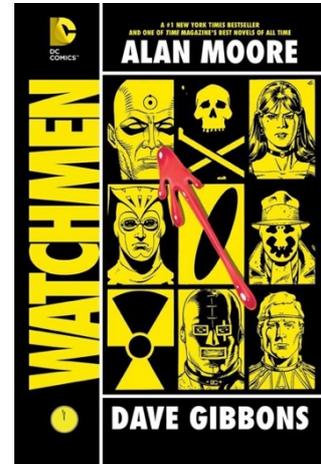
Note on the Election Results Party on November 4, 2020

Six to eight Political Junkies met online from 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM to discuss the results as they came in after the 2020 Election. Results for Florida and Minnesota came in during these two hours and were analyzed by TV personalities on CNN, Fox News, and the BBC. Many attendees added facts gleaned from other websites too. The winner of the presidential campaign is still unknown, but the potential delay in counting was already known. This session was a fitting end to the most interesting, most unpredictable election in memory. The last session of Political

Junkies is November 10, 19:00-20:00 with Charles Groenhuijsen and Laila Frank. If you would like to be added to the MS Teams for online viewing, please email sam.dumosch@hu.nl.

Individual Project of Rudo Kupeta Ends with Enthusiasm for—Graphic Novels!

In July, Rudo Kupeta completed an individual project by giving a presentation on “Misconceptions and New Research on Teaching English through the use of Graphic Novels.” Due to the corona crisis the presentation was held online, and it was attended by only a few but the stimulating conversations generated by her research supported a growing consensus in the HU English department that graphic novels should be an option for the projects in the course Youth Literature. Her research also supported a few alumnis advocating for using graphic novels in teaching English to VMBO2/3 pupils in Hilversum. Rudo was also the first English language student at the IA to obtain a Honours certificate by earning five stars and completing an assessment interview.



Quarterly Overview for period B

Courses and experiences in ENGLISH starting in period B

1. Debating in English, OHON-DEBATENG-20, in period B gives students more practice in speaking and planning their ideas. Contact: dominic.ruiz@hu.nl
2. Global Role, OHON-GRUS-19, is a course on the end of the American century and what it means for international issues. Contact: tomas.pollard@hu.nl
3. **NEW!** Bart Wagemakers, a teacher in History, is seeking a group of Honours students to revise his British English translation for an educational project relating to geographical education in Jericho (Palestine). Afterwards, students will be asked to reflect on their experience translating and what they learned about cultural heritage or education in Palestine for a free star. Contact: bart.wagemakers@hu.nl

Exclusive Interview with Bart Wagemakers on the Jericho Project

Tomas: Can you tell me more about this project? Why are you going to Jericho?

Bart: The goal of this project is to make Palestinian students (aged 12 to 15) more aware of the presence of places of cultural heritage in their surroundings. Many world heritage sites play an important role in cultural identity for people in dislocated communities. However, war, natural disasters, and human habitations built in natural settings constantly threaten some of these irreplaceable sites. Like many others, we believe that a nonchalant, invasive attitude towards these places is completely out of place. Making people, especially pupils, more aware of the value of heritage sites is the first step in preserving these special places. There is more info on our website www.culturalheritageeducation.hu.nl.

Tomas: So, who will use these translations?

Bart: Our project focuses on the Jericho Oasis, and we are developing materials in English and Arabic so pupils can “experience” these places. Pupils from the Palestinian Ministry of Education and two refugee camps coordinated by the UN will use our educational programme. We are working with UNESCO and the Ministry of Tourism and Heritage too. Honours students from the HU History Education Department will travel to Jericho and can use the translations with the pupils.



The HU Honours students posing with some officials in Jericho and HU teacher Bart Wagemakers (bottom right). Your translations will support the next groups’ efforts.

Courses and experiences in DUTCH starting in period B

1. **NEW!** Innovatie Snoepwinkel is a new course that helps you enlarge your creative thinking skills. Contact: Josca.Snoei@hu.nl. If English speakers want to do this course in the future, please let Tomas know. (see more info on the next page)
2. Atelier (Workshop Free Star) on innovation – period B, MHON-ATEL-20
3. De wereld in transitie, a course on global trends, GHON-WEMO-18. Postponed to period C. Contact: agnes.mijnhout@hu.nl
4. BegripsCode, GHON-BEGRCOD-20. Contact: ewald@begripsacademie.nl
5. Mensenrechten en Duurzame ontwikkeling, GHON-MENSREC-20. Contact: maartje.vermeulen@hu.nl
6. Podium Meet Up Club for a project (see below)

AANKONDIGING NIEUWE HONOURS CURSUS Innovatie Snoepwinkel



Innovatie Snoepwinkel

Honourskursus (B-C)

- VERGROOT JE CREATIEVE DENKKRACHT
- PROEF DE NIEUWSTE INNOVATIETOOLS
- (ONLINE) MASTERCLASSES EN ATELIER
- 7 X MAANDAGAVOND

INFO/AANMELDEN: JOSCA.SNOEI@HU.NL
(DEADLINE 9 NOVEMBER)

WWW.HONOURSTRAJECTEN.HU.NL

FACTSHEET INNOVATIE SNOEPWINKEL

Wil jij je creatieve denkkraft vergroten en leren hoe je een vernieuwing succesvol maakt? In deze cursus volg je masterclasses over innoveren en probeer je allerlei moderne innovatietools uit op actuele praktijkvraagstukken. Bijvoorbeeld hoe houd je mensen gezond en gemotiveerd terwijl ze in hun eentje thuiswerken, hoe bewaak je de teamspirit als alles digitaal wordt, hoe zorg je ervoor dat iedereen aangehaakt blijft in online meetings, etc. Ook mag je een zelf gekozen vraagstuk inbrengen. Uiteraard wordt je begeleid door ervaren innovatie experts (docent en praktijk). Kortom: wat zou jij doen als je naar hartenlust zou kunnen experimenteren met innoveren, waarbij je ook echt resultaten bereikt?

Wat doe je in de Innovatie Snoepwinkel?

1. Je verdiept je in de achtergrond van innoveren: je neemt deel aan (online) masterclasses/mini lectures. Ook verzorg je zelf met medestudenten een masterclass/mini lecture.
2. Je past innovatietools toe op praktijkvraagstukken: vraagstukken van echte opdrachtgevers staan centraal. Jij maakt je de techniek van een innovatietool eigen, onder begeleiding van de docenten. Als ware je een kunstenaar in opleiding. In de bijeenkomsten (ateliers), met de opdrachtgever erbij, wordt live geëxperimenteerd met de tool.
3. Je doet een meesterproef: je rondt de cursus af met het toepassen van een zelfgekozen tool toe bij een opdrachtgever. Je opdrachtgever kan bestaan uit een persoon, maar bij voorkeur zijn het meerdere personen, zodat ook groepsdynamica om de hoek komt kijken. Je voert je meesterproef uit bij een opdrachtgever uit een van de cursus bijeenkomsten of voor een zelf gekozen vraagstuk. De meesterproef kan individueel of samen met een groepje uitgevoerd worden.

De tijdsinvestering voor deze cursus is ca. 100-140 uur.

Leeruitkomsten

Als je deel hebt genomen aan De Innovatie Snoepwinkel behaal je de volgende leeruitkomsten:

- De student heeft een kennisbasis over innoveren, met aandacht voor innovatiestrategieën en innovatietools.

- De student kan in de rol van innovatie consultant de geleerde innovatiestrategieën en innovatietools toepassen in praktijkvraagstukken van opdrachtgevers.
- De student heeft inzicht in diens eigen stijl, kwaliteiten en ontwikkelingsniveau als junior innovatie consultant.
- De student kan een vertaling maken tussen diens leeropbrengst als innovatie consultant en diens professionele handelen in de eigen beroepscontext.

De Docenten

Hedwigh Verbruggen werkte jarenlang bij de HU en is zelfstandig innovatie expert. Vernieuwen staat altijd centraal in haar werk. Inmiddels heeft ze het regenachtige Nederland verlaten voor het zonnige Spanje (ze zal dus digitaal aanwezig zijn in de Innovatie Snoepwinkel). Josca Snoei werkt bij de HU als consultant en begeleidt teams die bezig zijn met innovatie. Samen hebben Hedwigh en Josca een werkboek geschreven met daarin uiteenlopende innovatietools. Dit boek wordt gebruikt in de Innovatie Snoepwinkel. Het boek heeft als focus vernieuwers te helpen om anderen in beweging te krijgen. Het biedt werkvormen die ondersteunen om met plezier, energie en verbinding resultaat te bereiken in innovaties. De tools zijn bewezen effectief en gekozen op hun verfrissende werking in de toepassing.

Bijeenkomsten

De bijeenkomsten zijn op maandagavonden van 18.30-21.00 uur op de volgende data: 16 november, 30 november, 14 december, 11 januari, 1 februari, 22 februari en 15 maart (blok B en C).

Podium Meet Up Clubs! English

Voor Nederlands, zie deze link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CSmTmFqaGE2s5HI2tbXhHYAKTikxRtxHpIyXTIsZ8EVUNIjGRjZCSIIvVzJOQTQxUzA3WkM1MVIyVy4u>

Are you a student at the Hogeschool Utrecht, and do you like to get in touch with other HU students? Go and sign up for one of the Podium Meet Up Club! What's the idea? Starting in December, the different Meet Up Clubs will meet every month to work on or talk about a specific theme. E.g. photography, books, cooking, games, debate / politics, etc. We will come together at the HU, of course at an appropriate distance in different classrooms. For six months you will work with your club on a final presentation. This can be an exhibition, presentation, performance, you name it! At the end of May 2021, we hope to organize a festival in the Botanical Gardens in which you will show various cultural activities. What can you expect? • Monthly meet up with club at the HU, Thursday 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm (week 5) • First meeting is in December: we provide snacks, drinks and music • Club is min. 3 and max. 8 people • Own initiative: we expect you to get started with the theme yourself • Small budget possible: for the purchase of materials, inviting a speaker, etc. • Festival at the end of May 2021 (subject to change, due to corona) So, for example, if you like to bake, sign up for the Meet Up Club: cook and organize the The Great HU bake off at the festival, where the public can taste and choose the winner. Or do you enjoy making music, sign up for the Music Meet Up Club to rehearse a song together. Do you like several topics? Then register for multiple groups. We will form groups based on the registrations. The deadline for registration is Monday, November 30. Do you know someone who seems like this too? Feel free to forward this form! PS. We will of course take into account the corona measures during these meetings.

Honours Experiences

(see <https://husite.nl/huhonours/community/> for more info)

1. Healthy Distance Challenge, November 23-27. A multidimensional project on service at a healthy distance, exercising in neighborhoods, and safe living situations at home for elderly.
2. Waddenzee Zomerlab, July 17-24. Live for a week and learn on a flat-bottomed boat with a group of Honours students while marooned during ebbs in the Dutch tidal basin (het Wad).

A Short Plug on the Honours Community

Who is Honours for?

Everyone is welcome, and Honours is designed for and funded by the government because three types of students have shown major benefits by participating in Honours programs:

- 1) students who need a challenge need Honours because it gives them the best, most meaningful educational experiences.
- 2) students who are abstract or holistic thinkers need Honours because its interdisciplinary and varied approach matches how they experience the world.
- 3) students who have and cherish one or more talents need Honours so they can develop their full potential fully and learn how to share it with others.

Empirical studies have shown that Honours is an essential component for these three types of students. These students thrive if Honours is included in their educational experience.

Honours is about exploration, challenges, interrelated questions, and talents. Honours students and coaches often forget what time it is as they get carried away by learning.

What can you do as an Honours student?

You can hang out, enjoy the great discussions and readings, and not complete any of the tasks, if you like. That is up to you. Hey, it is your life, and Honours is *free* for all students, right? You can take courses on interdisciplinary subjects or on in-depth professional skills like leadership and creativity.

You can participate in experiences developed by the Honours community that are posted under news on <https://husite.nl/huhonours/>

You can complete an individual project on a social, community, or educational need that you see at the HU or your high school. Discuss ideas with a coach.

You can be rewarded for tasks approached in an interdisciplinary manner for the HU or your intern school if you are a teacher trainee. You can also be rewarded for serving in student council for the leadership skills that you display and reflect upon with a coach. You can be rewarded for extracurricular activities done at your intern school or work if they show your social or professional skills. Discuss your experiences with a coach if you have questions.

You can earn “stars” that are listed as courses or projects on Osiris. Each star can show your skills, talents and experiences once you look for work or volunteer opportunities. You can only earn a “sufficient” or “insufficient” for an Honours task or course.

If you earn 5 stars, you can earn an Honours certificate that documents your professional skills, talents, and experiences. Obtaining this can help you network too.

If you have had a great idea, you may also run for HU Honours student of the year, a competition with a lot of positive energy that participants and observers enjoy for the opportunity to see and share ideas. Candidates give pitches to a live or online audience who

can then visit their stands (online somehow this year) and ask them questions. They then vote for the winners.

You can be a part of a national and international community of Honours students who go to conferences and do activities too.

This newsletter was produced by Honours coach Tomas Pollard for the English language Honours students. Please direct comments and items for the next newsletter to tomas.pollard@hu.nl.