Dear Student of High Achievement,

I would like to tell you about a special opportunity available to you through the Humanities Center at the University of Hartford.

The Humanities Center is accepting applications for Student Fellows for next year’s honors seminar. Students with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the 2019-2020 academic year are eligible to participate in the Humanities Center as Student Fellows.

As a Fellow, you attend a year-long honors seminar on the yearly theme. Kristin Comeforo, Associate Professor of Communication, will lead the Humanities Center Seminar for this next year. She has selected the theme of “(Trans)versing Gender, Race and Class” for the seminar. Here you will get to know some of the brightest and most articulate students at the University of Hartford. You will also attend lectures by both university faculty who are doing research on this theme and visiting speakers. Here is a description of the seminar:

Gender has been generally theorized by relying (1) on the body and (2) as an expression of ways we think, feel and “perform” our gender. This seminar will consider both, exploring how the human body is gendered as well as how we live our gender through our reality and expressions. In this class, students will study femininities and masculinities as identities that are always and already lived through and shaped by other factors (race, class, etc.). To this end, course readings will emphasize memoir, autobiography, and fictional accounts of gender as lived and experienced in a world that is informed by one’s race, class and sex.

In the Fall semester, students will study gender as a lived experienced by reading gender theory, watching films and collecting data from their day-to-day lives. Individually, students will produce their own gender memoirs and autobiographies in written, video or other multimedia form as part of a semester-long project. These projects will be put together into larger pieces, such as a documentary or STN panel that will aim to start broader conversations about gender within our community. No previous media experience is needed to take the class or complete assignments, just an interest in the subject. The Spring semester will be a series of lectures by faculty members and visiting speakers on the topic of “Trans(versing) Gender, Race and Class.”

Students who are selected for this seminar are awarded a fellowship and will receive a stipend of $500 and take the seminar for a total of six credits, three in the fall term and three in the spring term.* The courses are listed as HON 389 in the fall 2019 schedule and HON 390 in the spring 2020 schedule. The class meets both semesters on Tuesday evenings, 7:30-10:00 pm, and student fellows must take both semesters.
HON 389 will count as an elective credit for the Sociology and English majors as well as for the Gender Studies and Africana Studies minors. For other majors, especially those within the School of Communication, please check with Professor Comeforo for further information.

To apply, send an email by Friday, April 12, to Dr. Kristin Comeforo (comeforo@hartford.edu) and to me (Dr. Nicholas Ealy, Humanities Center Director at ealy@hartford.edu) that includes the following information:

- a brief explanation of why you want to participate in the Seminar (1 page)
- your major and minor (if you have one)
- your grade point average
- your local AND home phone number and mailing address
- your e-mail address
- your student ID number (not your social security number)

If you send your application as an attachment to your email, please make sure that (1) you have your name on the attached document and (2) you have your name as the name of the attached file (example: NicholasEaly.docx or NicholasEaly.pdf).

You will be notified of acceptance by Friday, April 19, with instructions for registration. Do not attempt to register for HON 389 (Fall ‘19) until you have been notified of your acceptance. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact me at ealy@hartford.edu. In the meantime, I recommend you register for four classes for fall 2019, as this would be a fifth class for you.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Ealy
Director, Humanities Center

* Students who already receive a full tuition discount are not eligible for the stipend.