Honors 101

Oceans and Archives: Kānaka Maoli and Research
ʻIlíma Long
In this class, students will explore Kānaka Maoli (Hawaiian people’s) relationships and approaches to research, primarily but not exclusively, within the context of indigeneity. In this highly interactive class, students will be asked to examine Kanaka and indigenous perspectives on questions such as, what is research? What is our relationship to research? How has research impacted our place in the global world? How are indigenous peoples engaging in research today as a means of recovering a sense of place in the world and as a means of steering and determining the future?

Pia Arboleda
What are you curious about? What issues are important to you and why? How do you examine these issues? Where do you begin? How do you present these ideas?

This course will help you answer these questions. It explores the process of producing research and creative work that is meaningful to your life. It will show you that research and creative projects can emanate from specific intellectual interests, recognized knowledge gaps in existing scholarship, personal experiences or community-related matters that have broad societal implications. Although this course is a general introduction to research and creative work, the shared thematic focus is Gender as a social construct. Classroom activities are interactive, student-centered and self-reflective. Be prepared for a fun-filled semester.

Petrice Flowers
This course will use Naomi Klein's This Changes Everything: Capitalism VS. the Climate as the backbone for this course. We will explore how scholars of social sciences, humanities, art, and natural sciences at UH Mānoa approach research on climate change and related environmental issues. Students will have the opportunity to hear from and interact with UHM professors and will then design their own research projects.

Reed Dasenbrock
Honors 101 aims to introduce the student to the domain of research: what forms do research take in the contemporary academy and how can and should students get involved in this most exciting dimension of the university? Such an introduction should help students navigate the complexities of the undergraduate experience, by enhancing the skills needed for research. In addition, this section of Honors 101 takes a critical look at the way knowledge is produced across disciplines and across time. At one point, we were told fat was bad for you and everyone should eat a low fat diet, but now sugar is the enemy. How are truth claims advanced, refuted, proved? Is it all a matter of opinion or does research truly lead to progress? If so, how? So we will be combining a number of practical exercises which will help you negotiate your academic path with more abstract readings and discussions which I hope will illuminate that path. We will ask a lot of questions, and you will find some of the tools to answer those questions in your own way.