

General Faculty Report (Spring 2026)
“Maximize Students’ Potential to Succeed”

The Honors Program has recently completed the review of applications for the Class of 2030, which involved a holistic process without review of SAT or ACT scores. We received 1,594 applications for admission into Macaulay Honors College. A total of 63 faculty, staff and alumni reviewers evaluated over 800 applications, an increase of 65% in readers over the previous year (38). We extend our sincere thanks to the faculty and staff readers for their dedication to selecting the next cohort of Honors Scholars. This admissions cycle brought a new opportunity for applicants to apply Early Decision to Macaulay. Baruch received 191 Early Decision applications, the highest number among the Macaulay partner campuses. Twenty-seven students have been admitted through the Early Decision process. Baruch Honors co-sponsors multiple Admissions, Open House, and yield events with the Baruch Admissions Team.

Experiential Learning and Community building – In fall 2025, Honors offered programming for our scholars to encourage community building and support academic success. We co-sponsored US Childhood Arrivals Paintings Sessions with Professor De La Cruz Santana, project that amplifies the stories of current and former undocumented youth, and issues of immigration and deportation. We held a Free-Thinking Lunch with Professor Sonia Jarvis to discuss the upcoming mayoral election. At our First-Generation Celebration, students engaged with staff (Robert Kunicki, Anthony Maniscalco, and Dean Kritikos) about their first-generation college experience and received valuable tips and guidance on how to thrive in college. In collaboration with the Baruch STEP program, student leaders and staff presented to middle school and high school students on topics relevant to first generation college students such as time management and selecting a major. We also hosted a guided tour and sketching activity at the Mishkin Gallery where students engaged with the Christian Hincapié: Decisions at a Desk exhibit.

Honors Courses - For the Fall 2025 semester, Honors offered 56 honors courses, spread across 90 different sections. Honors offerings fall within a range of liberal arts and business disciplines and include both in-person, online and hybrid modalities. Our Deputy Director, National & Prestigious Scholarships, Valerie Hrimnak taught COM 4900, a course that was developed to support our transfer pipeline students as they transition from community college to Baruch. Topics explored in the course include how leadership develops across academic and professional fields, introducing students to diverse models of communication and leadership. The Honors Program also encourages honors scholars to take specialized seminars on-site at the Macaulay campus.

Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships – To date this year, over 65 candidates from Baruch have applied for fellowships; four applicants are Fulbright semi-finalists, one applicant is a finalist for the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, and three students have been offered Gilman International Scholarships. Other awards that Baruch students /alumni have applied for include the Princeton in Latin America Fellowship, the Marshall Scholarship, and the Schwarzman Scholars Program. Baruch’s Fellowship office offered 5 events in the Fall 2025 semester, including general information sessions as well as focused sessions (e.g., language,

study abroad, public service); and workshops on specific opportunities (e.g. Truman; JK Watson Fellowship). Faculty interested in nominating students or assisting the Fellowships Office, should contact Valeria (Valerie) Hrimnak, Valeria.Hrimnak@baruch.cuny.edu.