



A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs (Volume 1)

By John Willingham

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Note: There is a new edition of this book! The following is a description from the 2012 edition...A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs is the first-ever comprehensive evaluation of leading public university honors programs. The fifty honors colleges and programs are (1) within state universities that rank in the top 75 in the 2012 U.S. News rankings; (2) or within state universities that are members of the prestigious Association of American Universities; or (3) have already gained significant recognition as leaders in honors education. The book has 58 charts, including one that summarizes all the data for each program. The individual charts follow a narrative (900-1400 words) about each program. Other charts show comparisons of all 50 programs. Programs are evaluated for overall excellence and for honors-specific components, such as honors curriculum; prestigious awards (Rhodes, Truman, and Goldwater); retention and graduation rates; honors residence halls; study-abroad programs; and priority registration for honors students. Each program is also assessed for the value-added impact it has on the university as a whole--that is, does the honors program rank significantly higher than the university of which it is a part? In addition, programs are ranked according to the range of their minimum SAT/ACT and high school GPA entrance requirements. Another ranking group includes programs in schools that have a primary focus on engineering. University programs reviewed are Alabama, Arizona, Arizona State, Arkansas, Auburn, Binghamton, Clemson, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Georgia Tech, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Iowa State, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Carolina State, Ohio State, Oregon, Penn State, Pitt, Purdue, Rutgers, South Carolina, Stony Brook, Texas A&M, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA, UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, University at Buffalo, UT Austin, Vermont, Virginia, Virginia Tech, Washington, Washington State, and Wisconsin.

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Editorial Review

Review

Honors Program Review Is Essential Reading By Grant Calder May 1, 2012 If you're a college counselor or independent consultant, you need this book. First of all, there is no other. Second, this one happens to be loaded with valuable information. In addition to providing detailed data on 50 of the best public honors programs and honors colleges in a format that allows easy comparison, it's also a crash course on the world of honors programs. And a complicated world it is. The book is a great consumer guide for any student, or parent of a student, considering an honors college or program. It is not filled with entertaining sidebars and personal profiles. It is a serious study of an extremely important segment of the world of higher education. -- Grant Calder

About the Author

The editor of A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs is John Willingham, who is also the editor of publicuniversityhonors.com. John has been working with editorial assistants and a Ph.D. statistician on the first edition of the Review. John is a full-time writer and editor. He is a contributing writer for the History News Network (hnn.us) and is the author of a historical novel on the Texas Revolution. Much of his work for HNN has focused on education issues in Texas, especially the curriculum wars that occurred in 2010-2011 over the adoption of the state's history and social studies curricula. Another essay for HNN explored the relationship of historical fiction and the teaching of history, especially in the university. His own novel, *The Edge of Freedom, A Fact-Based Novel of the Texas Revolution*, has been used as a reading supplement in college. John has also written about the recent attacks on public higher education by those who would sacrifice quality in state universities in the name of "reform." John became interested in the history of education, especially higher education, when he was a graduate student in American history at the University of Texas at Austin, earning an M.A. before deciding to pursue a career in journalism and public administration in Texas. Earlier, John had received a B.A. from UT Austin, with honors, majoring in history. His minor fields in graduate school were the history of education and journalism. He now divides his time between Portland, Oregon, and Austin, Texas.

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