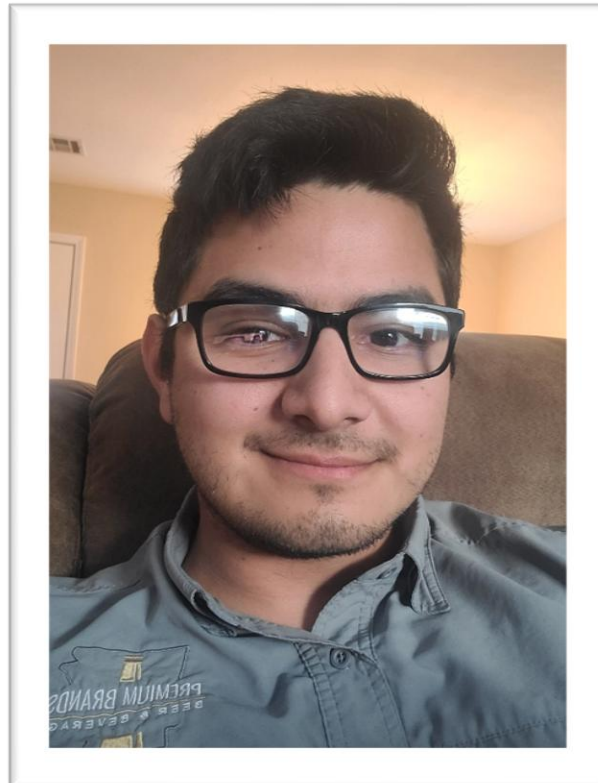


Anthony Suviaz

Honors – Art Appreciation

Honors – Introduction to International Relations

Graduation date: 05/15/2026



### **Section 1**

The Honors program encouraged me to explore perspectives that were previously unknown to me due to my current experiences. As a requirement to be part of the Honors program I had to take at least 2 honors classes. This resulted in me attending Honors – Art Appreciation. This offered me opportunities in the field of scholarship and experiences that expanded my world view and created a new appreciation in topics that otherwise I would never uncover. My Art Appreciation class gave me the opportunity to explore the world of art. Coming from a background that lacked exposure to creative arts, this class was completely new to me. Visual art was never a major component of my education and was categorized as being unproductive. Throughout this class we learned about the evolution of visual art and the true purpose of it. We learned about a variety of artists, their stories, their environments, and their motives. And even though it wasn't explicitly stated in the syllabus, I learned that attempting to qualify something like art is wrong, and my modern evaluation on the value associated with art

was biased. Art doesn't need to prove anything, it doesn't need to be productive, the purpose of art is to communicate a human experience, either through a message or emotions. To quantify the connection between people that are created in art into dollars or manhours spent would never capture the true value of art.

## **Section 2**

The Honors program put me at a great advantage in preparing me to transfer to ASU. In my honors classes I was encouraged to get involved in clubs and take workshop classes that fell outside of my usual curriculum. This promoted my attendance in classes that developed soft skills that I used in applying to scholarships, universities, and be a more well-rounded student. One specific class that I felt was the most memorable was my English Composition I class. In this class I had the opportunity to learn how to use AI effectively when drafting essays and papers. I feel that this class single handedly improved my skills in assembling coherent papers through various techniques using AI in a way that was ethical and educated me in drafting techniques. I used these skills to a high degree in offering feedback during my drafting and revising phase of my papers during my English Composition classes. In addition to this I was also encouraged to take supplemental workshop classes on grammar, syntax, and sentence construction. I think the value of these simple classes is severely underappreciated for nontraditional students like me who haven't attended formal classes in at least a decade. When I first began my education at NWACC I was worried that I had lost too much of the basic knowledge from my prior education to be able to succeed in community college, but these workshops offered an opportunity to relearn skills that would have otherwise made my education very difficult.

## **Section 3**

Community, curiosity, and diversity are the core values of the Honors club. As a member of this club, I tried to achieve these goals not only because they were our motto but also because I think they are just good qualities to have generally. One good example of this was my research paper in my English Composition class. The topic was the personal experiences of homeless people living in Northwest Arkansas and this project gave me an opportunity to study a portion of my community that is intentionally ignored. I wrote a few papers on this topic in both English Composition I and English Composition II, but my first paper was built around an interview of a homeless man who was struggling to find housing due to his age and severe disability. Through this interview I was able to capture anecdotal evidence that characterized the daily life, social barriers, and mental exhaustion that so many people experience when they are homeless. This allowed me to expand into the support network provided by the local community and then finally make a connection from the rise of homelessness in Northwest Arkansas and the current housing crisis in the region. This paper was different than any other assignment I have ever done because it required direct engagement with the community and the people affected. I personally interviewed 2 homeless people, visited local homeless shelters, and personally interacted with every person working with this community. I have never felt as passionate about an assignment as much as my research paper in English composition depicting the hardships faced by our local homeless population.



#### **Section 4**

Based on my personal experience attending NWACC, my advice to new members is to treat your time here as an opportunity for new experiences that would otherwise be impossible in the workforce. The 2 years you will spend here are very short and it is critical to make decisions very early in your academic career. I feel like I did not get to take advantage of all the opportunities that NWACC provided to me because I was just running out of time. At first my reasoning was that it would be wise to be cautious with my time that I'm spending at NWACC and hold back from attending all the cool events and clubs so I could focus on class work more, but as I'm reflecting on my choices I feel like I missed a lot of leadership opportunities and events that would have been very memorable in my time here.

When I first started attending NWACC, my primary goal was to try the best I can academically. One regret while attempting this was failing to manage my time properly. I am a non-traditional student with a family and a full-time job and for students who are in similar situations like me, it can be difficult to find the time to be a full-time student in addition to all the other tasks we would have to do. I also work as a delivery route supervisor where my primary duty is to manage human resources and the time of my team members effectively. From this experience I was able to understand the true timeline of an academic course, that it is limitless in

both directions. With a solid academic schedule of events, study time could be extended far before classes begin, or even before the prior semester event ends. Summer and winter breaks are an opportunity to master any class that could possibly be difficult before any deadline is imposed. I have always performed poorly in mathematics, this strategy worked to great results in every college level mathematics class I took.