

## *Honors Program's Summer School of Complexity and Complex Systems*

In 2007, the UCCS Honors Program was established with Dr. Michael Hackman as our first Director. Under Dr. Hackman's leadership, the UCCS Honors Program (HP) started intentional conversation around Gray Matters, that things are not just binary; life, society, interactions, and many other situations and places have the non-binary qualities – they are essentially gray matters. The Honors Program mantra has been that Gray Matters! In the same year, 2007 at UCCS, an MS Computer Science program focused on Media Convergence, Games and Media Integration (The GMI) program was started; and as the Program Director of that program I quickly realized that as Computation meets human participants things quickly turn into Complex Systems, and cause and effect are not so direct. In fact, seemingly similar conditions in living systems lead to different outcomes which in Complex Systems jargon is termed as the butterfly effect – that local interactions can create global phenomena. The Honors Program is joining forces with the MSCG-The GMI program in offering a unique opportunity under the umbrella of a UCCS Honors Program Summer School of Complexity beginning Summer 2021.

At the undergraduate level, the UCCS Honors Program will be offering two courses, HNRS 3011 (Conversations about Complexity) and HNRS 4950 (Honors Program Capstone Portfolios on Gray Matters and Complex Systems). At the graduate level, the UCCS Honors Program is joining forces with the MSCS-GMI program's CS 7060<sup>1</sup> (GMI Portfolio) with special focus on Complex Systems. A UCCS Honors Program student can complete part of the required UCCS Honors Program's curriculum including HNRS 3011 and HNRS 4950, or can advance their studies by taking the CS 7060 course. A limited number of graduate students who want to proceed for MSCS-GMI program will be accepted as part of Summer School on Complexity and Complex Systems by being part of interdisciplinary offering of the CS 7060 (GMI Portfolio) focused on Complex Systems Study.

Contact Dr. SK Semwal ([ssemwal@uccs.edu](mailto:ssemwal@uccs.edu)) or Ms. Carol Pina ([cpina@uccs.edu](mailto:cpina@uccs.edu)) for participating in the unique UCCS offering of the UCCS Honors Program's Summer School of Complexity and Complex Systems.

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<sup>1</sup> There is no cost of this special offering of CS 7060 to the UCCS Honors Program as the course is part of the MS-CS GMI curriculum and is offered every semester by the GMI program.