

# New Horizons Course and Degree

Chapter Leadership Development – Recognizing and Becoming a Leader

## WHAT IS THE NEW HORIZONS COURSE?

Taking the next step and venturing out to explore new opportunities is what the *New Horizons Course* is all about. The course is designed for interested, enthusiastic, dedicated members to help develop them into future chapter and state leaders. Without leaders, no organization can be successful. It is the goal of the *New Horizons Course* to inspire and instill confidence in Daughters to take that next step into leadership. The course is ideal for aspiring chapter and state leaders and consists of a series of online webinars, a study of DAR published resources, in-person activities, and a capstone project.



The *New Horizons Course* is a State-sponsored activity that is administered at the state level and is geared to be completed over the period of a year.

## KEY COMPONENTS

Although the *New Horizons Course* is a State-sponsored activity and might vary slightly from state to state, all *New Horizons Courses* share these five components:

- **Online Learning Modules**

A *New Horizons Course* participant will complete a series of on-line webinars designed to educate, enlighten and inspire participants about DAR and what it means to be leader. Webinar topics include using parliamentary procedures, developing a successful long range plan for your chapter, finding balance between life, work and DAR, and much more. The use of the on-line webinars makes it possible for all *New Horizons Course* participants to learn and participate in the course regardless of location or schedule.

- **DAR Publications & Resources**

The DAR Publications and Resources section of the *New Horizons Course* guides participants through the process of understanding the governing documents and available resources for our society at the chapter, state, and national level.

- **Activities and Tours**



Participation in state activities and tours gives prospective leaders opportunities to learn more about our Society and to spend time meeting and working with other members. Does your state have a historical site or museum? If so, organize a visit to learn how you and your chapter can further support your state's historic sites. Contact your state's *New Horizons Course* coordinator for a list of activities and tours that qualify for the *New Horizons Course*.

- **Capstone Project**

The idea for the Capstone Project is simple: to get the *New Horizons Course* participant to demonstrate her leadership capabilities by taking an active role in a chapter or state project. Capstone projects could include but are not limited to marking a Revolutionary War patriot's grave, organizing a cemetery or park clean-up day with the local Children of the American Revolution Society, conducting a wreath laying ceremony at a veteran's grave for Memorial Day or Veterans Day, conducting a clothing or food drive for local veterans or active duty military, and so on.

For more examples and ideas contact your state's *New Horizons Course* Coordinator.



- **Graduation**

All participants who complete the course curriculum will have the opportunity to take part in a special graduation ceremony, complete with a diploma, at either State Conference or at another State-sanctioned event at the State Regent's discretion. Graduation is an excellent time to welcome and recognize our future leaders and their accomplishments.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Although requirements may vary slightly from state to state, in general the *New Horizons Course* is open to any current DAR member in good standing who actively attends chapter meetings, has expressed an interest, and has been nominated for participation by her chapter or state society.

## **GETTING INVOLVED**

### **Aspiring Leader**

If you are interested in the *New Horizons Course*, please ask your chapter regent or your state Membership Chair for the name and contact information of your state's *New Horizons Course* Coordinator to find out exactly what your state's eligibility requirements are and how you can get involved. If they cannot assist you, please do not hesitate to contact the National Vice Chair of Member Training to assist you in finding the appropriate person to speak with in your state.

### **State Coordinator**

The State Coordinator of the *New Horizons Course* is appointed at the discretion of the State Regent. The course does not have to be administered by the Membership Committee. In some states the *New Horizons Course* is administered by the State Vice Regent and in other states the Chapter Development and Revitalization Commission Chair or State Organizing Secretary has been charged with administering the course.

Although the *New Horizons Course* is a State-sponsored activity, NSDAR has all the basic tools and resources to assist in implementing a successful *New Horizons Course* in your state. If you are a *New Horizons Course* State Coordinator, please do not hesitate to contact the National Vice Chair of Member Training for assistance and ideas in implementing or administering your state's *New Horizons Course*!

## **CONTACT**

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