UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

Students who complete the requirements of the Oregon State University Honors College receive OSU’s most prestigious academic recognition for undergraduates: an honors baccalaureate degree (HBA, HBFA or HBS) in their major, jointly awarded by the Honors College and the colleges of their major.

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The Honors College is about enrichment: How high can you dream? The Honors College provides challenging curricula, personal attention, and enhanced learning experiences in general education and in the student’s primary academic interest. The Honors College offers courses consisting of small groups taught by OSU’s finest faculty, specifically selected for their undergraduate teaching abilities. Through seminars, colloquia, and their own thesis research, students enjoy the benefits of a small college within a large, diverse, and comprehensive university.

Both a four-year and a two-year track are available. The two-year track is designed for transfer students or for students already enrolled at OSU. Interested students should contact the Honors College for information.

The Honors College, in cooperation with University Housing and Dining Services, maintains an honors living-learning community in West and Sackett Residence Halls.

Majors and Degrees

Students enrolled in the Honors College can pursue any one of OSU’s wide range of undergraduate majors. Students who complete the requirements of the Honors College receive OSU’s most prestigious undergraduate academic recognition: an honors baccalaureate degree in their major, jointly awarded by the Honors College and the colleges in which their major is located.

Honors Courses

See the Schedule of Classes each term under Honors College (HC) and under departmental listings for courses with an H suffix. The HC publishes its own schedule, which is available each term in the HC office and on the HC website. Honors courses change annually; many are offered under departmental designators.

See the HC website for additional information, http://honors.oregonstate.edu.

Admission

Admission is competitive and selective—only a small percentage of all entering students join the Honors College and space is limited. HC students are exceptionally able, highly motivated, and intellectually curious. They have a highly developed social consciousness and a sense of responsibility. Admission decisions are based on grade-point averages, SAT or ACT scores, and responses to an essay question that reveal the student’s ability to think deeply and creatively. High school applicants must have a minimum of 3.75 GPA or a score of 1300 New SAT, 1820 Old SAT, or 27 ACT to be considered for admission.

Entering first-year students interested in beginning the HC fall term should submit an application by either November 1 or February 1. HC applicants must also apply for admission to OSU by that time. Admission decisions are made approximately 45 days after the submission deadlines. A response to the current year HC essay question is required.

Transfer or advanced-standing applicants should submit an application by March 15th and will be notified no later than April 30th. On-campus visits are encouraged.

Degree Requirements

The honors degree is jointly awarded by the Honors College (HC) and by the colleges of the student’s major. Therefore, additional credit requirements beyond the total required by the colleges of the student’s major must be completed. HC students must satisfy all university and major requirements, as well as honors requirements. A student who completes a 30-credit track of Honors College courses will be designated an Honors Scholar. A student who completes a 15-credit track will be designated as an Honors Associate. In either instance successful completion leads to receipt of an honors baccalaureate degree. Transcripts will also reflect Honors College completion and will denote HC course work.

Many honors classes satisfy dual requirements; please check details with an Honors College advisor. For students in majors that require a senior thesis project, the honors thesis requirements may complement those majors.

Retention Criteria

All HC students must maintain a 3.25 cumulative OSU GPA and make satisfactory progress toward fulfilling the requirements of the HC and their major. Progress in three key areas—GPA, course work, and thesis—will be reviewed every fall, winter, and spring term. Students below, or at risk of falling below, the specified 3.25 cumulative OSU GPA will be notified to come in for advising. Students who do not meet retention expectations may be removed from the college. If removed, a student has the right to petition for reinstatement.

All students must maintain contact with Honors College advisors through regularly scheduled appointments.

Undergraduate Programs

Majors

- Honors Associate (http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/college-departments/honors/honors-associate-hba-hbfa-hbs)
- Honors Scholar (http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/college-departments/honors/honors-scholar-hba-hbfa-hbs)
Honors College Courses

HC 199. *HONORS WRITING. (3 Credits)
Through a range of assignments, texts, and guest speakers, Honors College students will develop critical thinking skills and a strategy for writing in their discipline. (Bacc Core Course)
Attributes: CSW2 – Core, Skills, WR II; HNRS – Honors Course Designator
Prerequisites: WR 121 with D- or better or WR 121H with D- or better

HC 299. SELECTED TOPICS. (1-16 Credits)
Selected topics for Honors College students.
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 399. SELECTED TOPICS. (1-16 Credits)
Upper-division special topics for Honors College students.
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 401. RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 402. INDEPENDENT STUDY. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 403. THESIS. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 404. WRITING AND CONFERENCE. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 405. READING AND CONFERENCE. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 406. PROJECTS. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 407. SEMINAR. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 18 credits.

HC 408. WORKSHOP. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 409. PRACTICUM. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.

HC 499. SPECIAL TOPICS. (1-16 Credits)
Attributes: HNRS – Honors Course Designator
This course is repeatable for 16 credits.