

REGULATIONS GOVERNING  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HONORS PROGRAM  
Approved by the Honors Board of Associate Directors on December 7, 2017  
Approved by the Scholastic Standards Committee on December 13, 2017

Effective Fall 2018

A. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The University of Connecticut Honors Program attracts high-achieving undergraduate students from Connecticut and beyond to the University of Connecticut; gives able and highly motivated students an enriched education commensurate with their abilities and interests; and experiments with curricula, courses, and methods of instruction that might benefit undergraduate education as a whole.

B. ORGANIZATION OF THE HONORS PROGRAM

1. The University Senate's Scholastic Standards Committee shall establish an Honors Board of Associate Directors comprised of at least one faculty representative from each school and college, one faculty or staff representative from each regional campus, and four students in good standing in the Honors Program to formulate policies, advise the Director of the Honors Program, and evaluate the program. The Honors Board of Associate Directors shall meet regularly, consult with Honors instructors, and liaise with departments.
  - a. The Scholastic Standards Committee shall appoint the faculty members in consultation with the Director of the Honors Program.
  - b. The Senate Scholastic Standards Committee and the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee will each appoint a faculty member to serve jointly on the Honors Board of Associate Directors.
  - c. The president of the Honors Council (see B.3) shall appoint four Honors student members who shall represent the diversity of the Honors Program.
  - d. Faculty members shall be appointed for renewable, staggered three-year terms. Student members shall be appointed for renewable one-year terms.
  - e. The Director of the Honors Program shall chair as an ex-officio member.
  - f. Professional staff members of the Honors Program may attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity.
  - g. The Honors Course Review Subcommittee shall consist of all faculty members of the Honors Board of Associate Directors. Duties of this subcommittee shall include the approval of courses as Honors Core courses, oversight of Honors UNIV courses, and other matters delegated to it by the Honors Board of Associate Directors.
2. Each academic department shall appoint at least one faculty Honors academic advisor for each major. The faculty Honors academic advisor provides guidance to students on their Honors courses and experiences and signs appropriate forms indicating fulfillment of Honors Program requirements.
3. The Honors Council is an official Honors student organization supported by the Honors Program staff. The members of this organization shall collaborate with Honors Program staff on aspects of the Honors Program of special concern to students.

C. ADMISSIONS

1. The Honors Board of Associate Directors shall be responsible for formulating policy on the admission of students and for informing students and faculty about the Program's academic standards.
2. The Office of Admissions, in consultation with the Director of the Honors Program,

- shall be responsible for carrying out admissions policies for first-year Honors students.
3. The Director of the Honors Program shall be responsible for carrying out admissions policies for transfer and current University of Connecticut students. To be admitted, a student should demonstrate, on the basis of their scholastic record and recommendations, that they have the capacity to succeed in Honors classes and the motivation to benefit from their association with the Honors Program.
    - a. A transfer student may apply for admission to matriculate into the Honors Program following their admission to the University.
    - b. A first-year student may apply for admission to matriculate into the Honors Program the following year by submitting a completed application packet according to posted deadlines. Applicants will be considered for admission on a space-available basis.
    - c. A second-year student may apply for admission to matriculate into the Honors Program the following year by submitting a completed application packet, including written departmental support of the application, according to posted deadlines.
  4. Exceptions to the above regulations may be made at the discretion of the Director of the Honors Program.
  5. Admission policies shall be reviewed periodically by the Director of the Honors Program and the Honors Board of Associate Directors.

#### D. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR HONORS AWARDS

1. To graduate as an Honors Scholar, a student must be enrolled in the Honors Program and meet the following requirements:
  - a. Completion of a minimum of 15 Honors credits in the major or related to the major as approved by the Honors academic advisor in the major department. This includes at least 12 Honors credits at the 2000-level or above, at least three of which must be earned through supervised study resulting in an Honors thesis or Honors capstone project.
  - b. Submission of a department-approved Honors thesis or Honors capstone project.
  - c. Demonstrated engagement in the major field as agreed upon by the student and their Honors academic advisor.
  - d. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.4 by graduation.
  - e. Fulfillment of any specific and/or additional departmental requirements.
  - f. Compliance with Honors Program deadlines for submission of documents.
2. A student with two or more majors may choose to graduate as an Honors Scholar in only one major. In this case, the student must specify in which of their majors they will complete their Honors Scholar requirements.
3. A student who chooses to graduate with the Honors Scholar designation in more than one major must fulfill all requirements in each Honors Scholar major.
  - a. A student must complete 15 distinct Honors credits in each Honors Scholar major.
  - b. A student must complete and submit a department-approved Honors thesis or Honors capstone project for each Honors Scholar major. However, with the permission of the Honors academic advisors in each major, a single Honors thesis or Honors capstone project may be accepted toward the Honors Scholar designation in multiple majors. In the case of a joint Honors thesis or Honors capstone project, the student's Honors academic advisors may allow them to complete the Honors thesis or Honors capstone project supervised study credits in one of the majors, provided the requirement for 15 distinct Honors credits is met for both majors.

4. To graduate as a University Honors Laureate, a student must be enrolled in the Honors Program and meet the following requirements:
  - a. Completion of at least 30 Honors credits including:
    - i. A minimum of 15 Honors credits in the major or related to the major, as approved by the Honors academic advisor in the major department. This includes at least 12 Honors credits at the 2000-level or above, at least three of which must be earned through supervised study resulting in an Honors thesis or Honors capstone project.
    - ii. The Honors credit distribution requirements as established by the Honors Board of Associate Directors.
  - b. Submission of a department-approved Honors thesis or Honors capstone project.
  - c. Demonstrated engagement in the major field as agreed upon by the student and their Honors academic advisor.
  - d. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.4 by graduation.
  - e. Fulfillment of any specific and/or additional departmental requirements.
  - f. Completion of co-curricular requirements as established by the Honors Board of Associate Directors.
  - g. Compliance with Honors Program deadlines for submission of documents.
5. The Director of the Honors Program, in consultation with the Honors Board of Associate Directors or appropriate University bodies, may approve modification of Honors requirements for Honors students with exceptional circumstances or special academic needs.

## E. SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS

### 1. Honors Credits and Grading

- a. Honors credit indicates that students have performed at a high level in courses that treat content in greater depth and demand extensive preparation and independent work from students. Honors students are expected to display capacities for creative analysis of problems and issues, and to excel in appropriate forms of communication.
- b. Honors credits may be earned in Honors courses, Honors conversions, and graduate courses.
  - i. Only courses in which students earn a B- or above are eligible for Honors credit.
  - ii. Honors credits may not be earned in courses without a letter grade, including transfer courses or courses taken on a pass/fail or satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

### 2. Continuation in Honors

- a. The Honors Board of Associate Directors shall be responsible for formulation of policy on continuation in and dismissal from the Honors Program. The Director of the Honors Program shall be responsible for carrying out these policies.
- b. All first year Honors students entering in the fall semester are required to enroll in the Honors First Year Seminar in their first semester.
- c. To continue in the Honors Program, a student must have earned a minimum of 6 Honors credits in the prior academic year.
- d. To remain in Honors good standing, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.4. A student whose GPA falls slightly below the minimum is placed on Honors probation. A student whose GPA is significantly below the required Honors minimum is subject to dismissal from the Honors Program.

- e. To continue in the Honors Program, a student must submit an Honors plan for each Honors major in the fall of junior year. The Honors preliminary plan indicates that each major department has given written department assurance in support of a student's continuation in the Honors Program.
- f. The Director of the Honors Program shall formulate appeals procedures for students who are eligible for dismissal from Honors. Exceptions to Honors dismissal policies may be granted at the discretion of the Director of the Honors Program.

#### F. HONORS AWARDS AND INCENTIVES

1. Benefits to students enrolled in the Honors Program include:
  - a. specially informed and dedicated Honors academic advisors for every major;
  - b. availability of Honors residential communities;
  - c. graduate student library privileges;
  - d. eligibility to apply for library carrels when engaged in writing the Honors thesis;
  - e. priority course registration among students of the same credit standing.
2. Honors work successfully completed is indicated on the student's transcript by the notation "Honors credit" under the course number and grade.
3. For each semester in which the student is enrolled in the Honors Program, the notation "Honors Program" is listed on the transcript following the student's grades.
4. A student who graduates as an Honors Scholar is recognized in the commencement program and with the notation "Honors Scholar in [MAJOR]" on the transcript and on the diploma for any degree in which the Honors Scholar award is earned.
5. A student who graduates as a University Honors Laureate is recognized in the commencement program and with the additional notation "University Honors Laureate" on the transcript and on the diploma for any degree in which the Honors Scholar award is earned.