

# University of Iowa Honors Program

## Director

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**Website:** <https://honors.uiowa.edu/>

## Programs

## Undergraduate Program of Study University Honors

Honors at Iowa helps students tailor opportunities to different educational needs and goals. Honors students may take honors courses each semester that they are enrolled at the university. Honors courses are generally small and interactive. They connect students with distinguished professors and offer new topics each semester. Honors courses also are part of the GE CLAS Core curriculum and do not add requirements for graduation.

Students are encouraged to begin honors work early. In HONR:1100 Honors Primetime, entering students earn 1 s.h. of honors credit by taking a short course the week before fall classes begin. Students who enter the honors program directly from high school take HONR:1300 Honors First-Year Seminar with selected professors on current topics, earning 1 s.h. in the fall semester. Honors students may fulfill GE CLAS Core requirements by completing honors sections such as RHET:1030 Rhetoric, ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature, and CHEM:1110 Principles of Chemistry I.

Upper-level students may take honors courses in their majors or pursue individual instruction with faculty members through honors courses such as HONR:3994 Honors Research Practicum. Students also may earn honors credit for a non-honors course by developing an honors contract with the course instructor; the student and instructor negotiate a unique project for the course and develop the honors contract around the project.

Additional academic opportunities include honors advanced seminars, honors independent studies, and honors practica in teaching and service.

Students learn about honors opportunities in weekly emails from the UI Honors Program. Honors professional staff members and honors peer mentors offer guidance in personal meetings and group presentations. In addition, the honors staff helps students design individualized curricula for their special interests. To learn more, visit Honors Requirements on the program's website.

## Joining the Honors Program

Students may apply to the University of Iowa Honors Program as entering first-year, entering transfer, or current University of Iowa students. Current students are encouraged to apply prior to earning 60 s.h. in coursework. Those who join the UI Honors Program must attend an honors orientation.

To remain in the honors program and to graduate with University Honors, students must maintain a University of Iowa cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.33 and complete the honors program curricular requirements; see "University Honors Curriculum" below. For more information

about joining the University of Iowa Honors Program, see Join on the program's website.

## Graduation with University Honors

Students who graduate with University Honors through the UI Honors Program are recognized at commencement. University honors is noted on a student's diploma and transcript. UI Honors Program students completing any undergraduate degree program may graduate with University Honors.

## University Honors Curriculum

Students earning bachelor's degrees at the University of Iowa complete honors coursework and experiential learning in order to graduate with University Honors. Students are not required to complete all honors coursework requirements before they begin experiential learning.

## Honors Coursework

Students complete 12 s.h. of honors coursework during their first four full semesters in the program. Students may count a maximum of two honors contract courses toward the coursework requirement.

The following honors coursework must be completed.

- An honors first-year seminar during the first semester at the University of Iowa (for students who enter the UI Honors Program directly from high school). Students who must take a specific first-year seminar required by their major or living learning community may substitute another honors class for the honors first-year seminar requirement.
- An honors course or an honors contract course during the first full semester in the program.
- Additional honors coursework to total at least 12 s.h. within the first four full semesters in the program.

## Experiential Learning

Students complete 12 s.h. of honors credit in approved experiential learning activities. Students may satisfy the requirement with one or more of the following options: honors in the major (this option fulfills the entire 12 s.h. experiential learning requirement), research, study abroad, internships, teaching assistantships/learning assistantships, Honors Writing Fellows, Iowa Policy Research Organization, experiential honors coursework, and/or service learning.

See more information about these experiential learning opportunities and others by visiting Experiential Learning on the Honors at Iowa website.