

Honors College

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The LSU Honors College is a highly selective four-year enrichment program for intellectually motivated undergraduate students. Honors students enter as freshmen and enroll in at least 32 hours of Honors courses over their four-year career, culminating in the production of an Honors thesis or project in their major field of study. From small enrollment seminars in the freshman year to independent research activities in preparation for the senior honors thesis, the Honors College experience is characterized by close interaction between Honors students and outstanding faculty.

Honors students pursue a rigorous academic program which satisfies all requirements for graduation, including the requirements of their major academic department. Honors courses go beyond the basic requirements to provide the basis for outstanding achievement and appropriate recognition at graduation. In the first two years of study in the Honors College, breadth of academic experience is emphasized. Honors work involves the student in a variety of fields ranging from the humanities to the sciences and students may elect to take specialized seminars in a variety of disciplines. Honors students in the junior and senior years usually become more focused in their majors, developing increasingly independent research interests and culminating in the production of a senior thesis or project under the direction of a faculty member in the student's major department.

Participation in the Honors College supplements, but does not replace, work in a major field. Credits earned in Honors College courses may be used to satisfy general education requirements or specific degree requirements. Honors College and departmental advisors assist in assuring that Honors students meet all requirements of each student's major curriculum.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Entering Freshmen

Entering freshmen with the following minimum ACT or SAT scores and a 3.50 academic high school gpa are invited to apply for admission to the college.

- ACT requirements—30 composite and 30 English or 29 composite and 31 English.
- SAT requirements—1320 combined math and critical reading and 660 critical reading.

Continuing or Transfer Students

Continuing students who have completed at least their first semester of college and have attained at least a 3.50 gpa are also invited to inquire about admission to the college.

Readmission

Students who have been dropped from the college may apply for readmission if they meet the following requirements:

- they have attained a minimum overall gpa of 3.00; and
- they request registration in an honors course at the time of readmission.

RECOGNITION REQUIREMENTS

Honors College students earn their graduation degrees from LSU through their senior colleges and earn Honors College recognition by meeting the following requirements (for all recognition awards, see curriculum for description of courses eligible for Honors credit):

Good Standing: All students must be in good standing to participate in the Honors College, register for Honors courses, and be eligible for priority registration. Following the initial semester in the Honors College, an honors student is considered to be in good standing if he/she maintains a minimum overall gpa of 3.00 and successfully completes a minimum of two honors courses (five to six hours) per academic year in residence.

College Honors: Noted on both the diploma and the LSU transcript, College Honors is the culmination of the Honors College curriculum. Students who earn College Honors at graduation will receive special recognition at LSU commencement. To graduate with College Honors a student must meet all requirements as established by the student's own college including at least 32 hours of Honors classes as follows:

- a minimum of six hours of HNRS course work;
- 12 hours at 3000+ level, following upper division departmental honors programs, where they exist;
- senior thesis or project, following thesis guidelines;
- 3.5 gpa in overall, LSU, and honors course work.

Upper Division Honors Distinction: Students achieving this distinction will receive recognition at LSU commencement and on their transcripts. Students working toward upper division honors distinction are expected to indicate their intention, in person, to the Honors College upper division advisor who will furnish them with detailed requirements including the following:

- 12 hours of honors courses at the 3000 level or above, including three to six hours of thesis or project;
- Senior honors thesis or project following thesis guidelines;
- 3.50 gpa in both overall and LSU course work, and for all honors courses used in the student's Upper Division program.

Sophomore Honors Distinction: Recognition includes a notation on the transcript and a certificate awarded after the end of the fourth semester. This designation will be subject to approval by the dean of the student's college upon recommendation of the dean of the Honors College. To achieve this distinction, students must complete the following by the end of their fourth regular semester in college:

- 20 hours of HNRS or departmental honors courses, including a minimum of six hours of HNRS courses;
- A 3.50 gpa in overall, LSU, and Honors course work.

HONORS COLLEGE CURRICULUM

Honors students are required to take at least five to six hours of Honors courses per year to remain in good standing and at least 32 hours of Honors courses (including thesis) to graduate with College Honors. The following types of courses qualify for credit as Honors courses:

- **Honors College courses:** Designated with the HNRS prefix in the Schedule of Classes and administered by the Honors College. Example: HNRS 2013 The Twentieth Century.
- **Honors Departmental courses:** Designated with a departmental prefix and "Honors" in the course title as listed in the Schedule of Classes. Example: CHEM 1421 Honors: General Chemistry.
- **Honors Options:** The honors option is available to students when separate upper division honors courses are not available. A student will work with a professor to produce a contract outlining the work to be done in addition to the regular work for a given course. The student will enroll in this course and will obtain honors credit by successfully completing the work outlined in the contract. Honors option regulations and forms are available through the Honors College. Honors credit is noted on the transcript with the letter "H." Example: ENGL 3020 British Literature (H).
- **Honors Thesis/Project:** An Honors Thesis of high quality is required for students to graduate with College Honors. Students in all disciplines are encouraged to link their Honors thesis with requirements in their own majors and must consult with their

departments concerning its final format. The Honors Thesis should be completed in course work totaling at least six hours. Students may enroll in thesis preparation courses in their own departments, or may use Honors 3991 and Honors 3992 with the agreement of their department.

HONORS COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Academic Experience

The goal of the Honors College is to prepare academically motivated students for success following graduation and throughout their future careers. In addition to Honors course work, Honors College students have the opportunity to engage in a wide range of academically related activities during their undergraduate careers. The Honors College advising staff works to guide students toward the following opportunities and students are encouraged to meet with our advisors on a regular basis.

- **Community Service Opportunities:** Freshmen can work together on a community service activity, learning to work together as a group and learning more about the LSU and Baton Rouge communities.
- **Study Abroad:** All Honors College students are encouraged to participate in foreign study programs, especially during their sophomore or junior years.
- **Research Assistantship/Internships:** In their junior year, Honors College students should identify areas of academic/career interest and begin to work on more specialized research under the supervision of a faculty

member or on internships in fields appropriate to their career goals.

- **Postgraduate Fellowships/Scholarships:** In their senior year, Honors College students should identify and apply for prestigious fellowships and scholarships that pertain to their career interests.

Residential Experience

The Laville Honors House is a residential college affiliated with the Honors College. The residence hall is located adjacent to the Honors College administrative offices in the French House and is available for all Honors College students (freshmen through seniors). The Laville Honors House provides a living environment that fosters academic excellence and close personal interaction between students and faculty. In addition to regular participation in activities by "Faculty Friends," faculty offices and seminar rooms are also located in the Laville Honors House to enhance student academic performance.

Honors Courses and Curricular Equivalents

In meeting the requirements for their degrees, honors students may substitute a number of honors courses (HNRS and departmental) for nonhonors courses required for their degree programs. A list of honors courses and their curricular equivalents follows (+ = general education course).

Honors Courses	Curricular Equivalent	Departmental Honors	Curricular Equivalent	Departmental Honors	Curricular Equivalent
1001+	Three credits of humanities elective.	ACCT	2002.....2001 2102.....2101	MGT	3831.....3830
1101+	Three credits of humanities elective.		3002.....3001	MKT	3402.....3401
1003+	Three credits of history elective or three credits of social sciences or humanities elective.	ANTH	4999.....4998	MUS	1733.....1732 1755.....1751 2733.....2731 2734.....2732
1103+	Three credits of history elective or three credits of social sciences or humanities electives.	ARCH	1102.....1002 2101.....2001 2102.....2002		
1007+, 1008+	Four credits of biological sciences with lab <i>each</i> (for nonscience majors).		3101.....3001 3102.....3002	OCS	1006.....1005
2002+	Equivalent to ENGL 2000. Three credits of humanities elective. In the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Basic Sciences, this course may be used to partially satisfy the sophomore literature requirement.		4101.....4001 4102.....4002	PHIL	1001.....1000 2053.....2033
2004+	Three credits of history elective or three credits of social sciences or humanities electives.	BIOL	1207.....1208 1503.....1202, 1209	POLI	2052.....2051 3896.....4996 3897.....4997
2011, 2012 +	Equivalent to ENGL 2000. Three credits of humanities or	CHEM	1421.....1201 1422.....1202 1431.....1212 2003.....2002 2461.....2261 2462.....2262 2463.....2364	PSYC	2001.....2000
2013+, 2021+	social sciences elective <i>each</i> , depending on the course content in a given semester.			REL	1006.....1005 1007.....1004 1015.....1003 2006.....2005 2030.....2029
2202+	Equivalent to ENGL 2000. Three credits of humanities electives.	ECON	2001.....2000 2011.....2010 2031.....2030 2036.....2035		
2204+	Three credits of history electives or three credits of social sciences or humanities electives.			SOCL	2002.....2001
3001+, 3003+	Four credits of humanities or social sciences elective <i>each</i> . In the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Basic Sciences, these courses may be used to partially satisfy the sophomore literature requirement.	ENGL	1003.....1002 2823.....2123 2824.....2024 3925, 3927, 3929.....2920, 2921, 2922	SPAN	2103.....2101 2104.....2102
3030+	Three credits of humanities elective.	FREN	2103.....2101 2104.....2102	THTR	1021.....1020 2128.....2028
3031+	Three credits of social sciences elective.	GEOG	4999.....4998		
3033+	Three credits of social sciences elective.	GEOL	1002.....1001 1004.....1003		
3035	Three credits of natural sciences elective.	GREK	1002.....1001 2052.....2051		
3100	One to six credits in area of major concentration.				
3991, 3992	Thesis research—three credits <i>each</i> in area of major concentration.	HIST	1002.....1001 1004.....1003 2056.....2055 2058.....2057		
		HRE	2724.....2723 3724.....3723 4724.....4723		
		ISDS	1101.....1100 2010.....2000 2011.....2001 3117.....3115		
		MATH	1101.....1100 1551.....1550 1553.....1552 2058.....2057 2086.....2085		
		MC	2001.....2000 2011.....2010 2016.....2015 3081.....3080 4091.....4090 4112.....4111 4212.....4211		

See the section “Courses of Instruction” for additional departmental honors courses with no specified curricular equivalents.