

**UPPER DIVISION HONORS (UDH) PROGRAM**  
 Department of Biological Sciences

**Student Eligibility:**

Students must have completed sixty (60) credit hours with a minimum GPA of 3.50 to enter the program.

**Application Procedures:**

Students must officially apply for the Honors Program prior to or at the beginning of the Junior year. Students can pick up an UDH application from the College of Science Dean’s Office. A completed UDH application must be approved by the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Biological Sciences, the College of Science Dean’s Office, and the Honors College. The application should include the courses to be taken with the Honors Option and the faculty member that will serve as the student’s research mentor.

**UDH Student Requirements:**

1. Must complete all core and required courses in the major with a grade of B or better in each course. See below for the **Honors Course Requirements** for your major.
2. Must maintain an overall minimum GPA of 3.50 throughout the Honors Program.
3. Must complete an honors senior thesis on an original research project under the direction of a faculty member approved by the Department Chair. Research credit will consist of enrollment for two (2) semesters in BIOL 3999 Undergraduate Research for a minimum of four (4) credit hours (2 credit hours each semester). The student must write a thesis and successfully defend the thesis before a committee composed of at least three (3) faculty members, one (1) of whom must be from outside the Department. Two (2) committee members must be faculty from the Department of Biological Sciences.
4. The student must present their honors thesis research in a seminar during the semester of anticipated graduation. The seminar is open to the public as well as the Department.
5. All Honors College requirements, defined in the *LSU General Catalog*, must be met.
  - a. The student must complete a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours of courses numbered 3000 or higher, not including research credits (BIOL 3999).
  - b. Required courses for each curriculum are listed below and must be taken under an honors option contract. The contract to enroll in the “*Honors option*” is developed by the course instructor and the student. The contract should clearly describe the nature of the work required for the honors option and how this work will be evaluated for grading. The contract must be approved by the course instructor, the Department of Biological Sciences, and the Honors College.

**Honors Course Requirements:**

- Biological Sciences:** BIOL 4087 or 4093, and one (1) course from three of the four areas of approved Biological Sciences electives. Minimum of four (4) credit hours (2 credit hours each semester) of BIOL 3999 for thesis. 16-18 hours required.
- Biochemistry:** BIOL 4093, BIOL 4094, BIOL 4001 and one (1) course chosen from either Group 1 or 2 approved BCH electives. Minimum of four (4) credit hours (2 credit hours each semester) of BIOL 3999 for thesis. 16-18 hours required.
- Microbiology:** BIOL 4087 or 4093, BIOL 4110 or 4246, and two (2) additional courses chosen from approved MBIO electives. Minimum of four (4) credit hours (2 credit hours each semester) of BIOL 3999 for thesis. 16-18 hours required.

*Revised April 2017*

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 Name of Student (Printed)

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 Signature of Student

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 Date