

THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

HONORS PROGRAM



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HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Program at The University of Findlay provides a unique educational experience to challenge and academically enrich students of high academic achievement, motivation, and intellectual curiosity.

It encourages and stimulates students to go above and beyond the general range of undergraduate coursework and to be a part of a community of students and faculty who share a culture of academic excellence.

Above all, the Honors Program aims to nurture a life-long passion for learning in students' educational, creative, and professional pursuits.

MISSION STATEMENT

To nurture and challenge a life-long passion for learning in students' educational, creative, and professional pursuits.

GOALS

1. To cultivate honor students' potential to learn through the scholarship of : (a) logic and problem solving, (b) communication, (c) critical thinking and evidence-based practice, (d) appreciation of diversity, and/or (e) the development of creative productions.
2. To foster and develop relationships between Honors students and a sense of identification with the Honors Program.
3. To provide the opportunity for faculty to create innovative courses for honors students that promise to enhance teaching skills and scholarly productivity.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

First Year Freshman

If you are a high school graduate starting your first semester at The University of Findlay, you will be invited to join the Honors Program if you have a:

- Minimum high school cumulative GPA of 3.80; or
- Minimum ACT score of 27; or
- SAT score of 1820

Students Who Have Completed One Semester or More

You may apply to join the Program if you have earned a GPA of 3.50 or better after completing at least 12 credit hours at The University of Findlay. This situation also applies to post-secondary options students.

Transfer Students

If you are a transfer student, you may apply to join if you have completed at least 12 credit hours at an accredited college or university and have a minimum of a 3.50 GPA. Students transferring from another accredited college or university may request transfer of honors credit taken at their school. This request must be accompanied by appropriate documents including course syllabi and description. The Final Honors Project (HNRS 495) must be completed while a student at The University of Findlay.

Applying for Admission into the Honors Program

If you are interested in becoming an Honors member, you must complete the online application form to be considered. You will be sent notification of your acceptance into the Program by the Honors Program Chair. To apply, go to the Applications and Forms page on the honors website at <http://www.findlay.edu/academics/info/honorprogram/applicationsandforms.htm>.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with recognition as an Honors Scholar, you must successfully complete the following requirements of the Honors Program:

- A cumulative college grade point average of 3.50 or higher
- Attendance at mandatory biannual meetings; one meeting per semester
- Completion of HNRS 370, 371, 372, and 373 (12 semester hours)
- Completion of HNRS 495, Final Honors Project (4 semester hours)
- Grade of "B-" or above in all HNRS courses

Semi-Annual Meetings

You are required to attend one meeting per semester. These mandatory meetings are intended to provide peer support and socialization and direct you toward the completion of the major project. Breakout sessions for each cohort provide appropriate educational topics such as qualitative research, IRB process, and proposal preparation.

Annual GPA Requirement

To remain in the Honors Program, you must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher each academic year. If at the end of spring semester your GPA has fallen below 3.50, you will be withdrawn from the Program. You may reapply when your GPA is again 3.50 or higher. Readmission into the Program will be determined by the Honors Program Advisory Board.

HONORS CURRICULUM

(See Appendix A for visual representation)

HNRS 370 Scholarship of Diversity

Prerequisite: acceptance into Honors Program

This is one of four required courses for the honors program curriculum. The purpose of this course is to support an appreciation for diversity through awareness of own biases and prejudices and an acceptance of differences, using active listening and honest communication skills. This course may be repeatable with different section topics. (3 semester hours)

HNRS 371 Scholarship of Logic and Problem Solving

Prerequisite: acceptance into Honors Program

This is one of four required courses for the honors program curriculum. The purpose of this course is to emphasize effective use of logic through solving case studies and using effective written, verbal, and nonverbal communication skills. This course may be repeatable with different section topics. (3 semester hours)

HNRS 372 Scholarship of Critical Thinking & Evidence Based Practice *Prerequisite: acceptance into Honors Program*

This is one of four required courses for the honors program curriculum. The purpose of this course is to focus on critical thinking skills necessary to make decisions about practical applications, using articulate and persuasive communication skills. However, instructors present various topics of inquiry that is related to their own area of expertise. This course may be repeatable with different section topics. (3 semester hours)

HNRS 373 Scholarship of Creativity

Prerequisite: acceptance into Honors Program

This is one of four required courses for the honors program curriculum. The purpose of this course is to demonstrate creative abilities and appreciation for that which is enriching to our society, using eloquent communication skills. This course may be repeatable with different section topics. (3 semester hours)

HNRS 495 Final Honors Project

Prerequisite(s): nine semester hours of honors coursework, and a research methods course in the student's discipline or permission of the instructor

The Final Honors Project represents the culmination and integration of what you have learned during your undergraduate education. As an independent study, the major project will give you the opportunity to pursue and explore in detail a topic of interest in your major field under the supervision of a faculty advisor. It is strongly recommended that you complete the Final Honors Project one semester prior to graduation. The best preparation for the Final Honors Project is solid grounding in the major field and familiarity with the research approaches of that discipline. (4 semester hours)

SYMPOSIUM FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVITY

The Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity (SSC) encourages the aspirations and achievements of inquiring minds for a lifetime pursuit of knowledge through University-wide collaboration and scholarship.

To that end, SSC goals are to:

- Showcase undergraduate and graduate research and performance;
- Foster connections with alumni;
- Promote student research, creativity, and leadership qualities;
- Make connections with other disciplines across our UF community;
- Develop skills in communication and critical reasoning;
- Instill a sense of belonging within our learning community.

All honors students are expected to present their Final Honors Project either as an oral presentation, a poster, or other creative display during this symposium which is held each spring semester.

GRADUATION RECOGNITION

Graduating as an Honors Scholar distinguishes you with special recognition in the graduation ceremony. You will receive an honors certificate at graduation, and you will wear The University of Findlay bachelor hood and honors medallion during commencement.

“Honors Scholar (*in your designated field of study*)” suggests that you have gone above and beyond a regular course of study and that you have done in-depth research in your chosen profession. Graduates tell us that such a designation on their applications or resume tends to set them apart from other applicants for graduate school, professional school, or a job. Indeed, undergraduate research is an important factor to those evaluating applications.

TUITION WAIVER

During any given semester, if you have been officially admitted to the program, you may be eligible for tuition waiver of up to six semester hours of overload credit (above 18 hours for that semester). To receive this overload waiver, you must be enrolled in an honors course during the semester for which you request the overload tuition waiver.

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Appendix A

