The Honors College

The Honors College (HC) at Auburn University offers a select cohort of high-ability students a unique academic experience designed to provide many of the advantages of a small college in addition to the myriad opportunities available at a large and diverse research university. Because of their academic potential, Honors College students have access to a more academically challenging set of courses and programs. Due to their rigorous Honors-level courses, access to graduate courses, specialized advising, and regular exposure to diverse social and co-curricular programs, Honors students have closer connections to faculty and with other students, providing a sense of community and identity within the larger university context.

Eligibility

Students may gain admission to the Honors College as an entering freshman based on ACT/SAT scores (29/1290 minimum), high school GPA (3.75 minimum), an application essay, and a record of leadership and service. Selection will be based upon their academic record along with an application essay. Students enrolled at Auburn who have a 3.4 unadjusted GPA may also be considered for admission.

Curriculum

The Honors curriculum has been developed to provide Honors College students the opportunity for challenging scholarly courses across the university and within their disciplines, culminating in a sustained, in-depth experience in their major fields of study.

Honors College students are required to complete 30 hours of Honors-level credit. The 30 hours must be selected from (1) and (2) below.

1. Students may select courses from the following areas:
   - Honors University Core courses
   - Honors Departmental courses
   - Graduate-level course in the major field of study
   - Honors Study and Travel courses (maximum of 1)
   - Honors Seminars (maximum of 2)
   - Honors Research Seminar
   - Honors Contract courses
   - Honors Participation courses (maximum of 3)
     - Honors Freshmen Exploration (one-time enrollment as a first-year student)
     - Honors Lyceum (maximum of 2)
     - Honors Book Club (maximum of 2)
     - Honors Forum (maximum of 2)

2. Students must complete one of the following Honors experiences:
   - Departmental Capstone course(s) at the Honors level (credit hours defined by department)
   - Honors Research and Thesis (minimum of 6 hours)
   - Three graduate-level courses in the major field of study (minimum of 9 hours)

Students must also complete their disciplinary requirements and have a 3.4 minimum cumulative unadjusted Auburn GPA at the time of graduation.

Policies

A grade of “C” or better in Honors courses is required to earn Honors College credit.
In order to remain in good standing as a member of the Honors College, students must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Students are required to complete a minimum of two Honors courses per academic year.
2. First-year students must attain a minimum of a 3.2 cumulative unadjusted Auburn GPA and second, third, and fourth-year students must maintain a minimum of 3.4 cumulative unadjusted Auburn GPA. A student whose GPA falls below the minimum is given one semester to correct the deficiency or be suspended from the Honors College.
3. All first-year students in the Honors College must meet with an Honors Academic Adviser and submit a Plan of Study prior to registration for spring courses. Any changes to the Plan of Study should be done at a meeting with an Honors College Adviser.
4. Second, third, and fourth-year students should meet with an Honors Academic Adviser at least once a year to ensure retention and understanding of the program and to confirm progress being made toward the completion of the Honors requirements.
5. Students who do not successfully maintain good standing (Honors course progression, GPA, and/or submission of the Plan of Study) will be suspended from the Honors College. Students may be reinstated upon attaining the minimum GPA and/or providing the Honors College with an updated Plan of Study for Honors courses. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the College when good standing has been attained.
6. Any scholarships awarded by the Honors College are contingent upon maintaining membership in good standing in the Honors College. Suspension from the Honors College will result in a loss of Honors scholarship funding.

**Honors College Graduation Distinctions**

After completing the requirements of the Honors College curriculum, students graduate with a special designation that is noted on their diploma and transcript.

To graduate as a *University Honors Scholar* students must complete all requirements of the Honors College, the requirements for their disciplines, and have a minimum cumulative unadjusted Auburn GPA of 3.4.