

Overview of the Program

The Department of English Undergraduate Honors Program provides a carefully selected group of students with opportunities for advanced scholarship. The English Honors Program will benefit those interested in graduate work, advanced professional study, or greater intellectual challenges. The advantages of the Honors Program include:

- Closer contact with faculty tutors than students in the regular major program;
- A stimulating seminar environment with students of similar aims and abilities;
- An opportunity to develop individual initiative and sophisticated critical skills.

Program Requirements

1. **Honors students will complete the requirements of his/her chosen English major as described in the current catalog.**
2. **The Honors program requires 9 hours of Honors-level work. All Honors students are required to complete at least one (three-hour) Honors seminar (ENG 4935/Fall or ENG 4936/Spring).**
3. **These are the options fulfilling the remaining six hours of Honors credit:**
 - A. A second (three-hour) Honors seminar (ENG 4935 or ENG 4936).
 - B. A three-hour independent study (ENG 4906). The independent study should be connected to an eligible upper-level course in the major being taught in that semester.¹ Students will attend some or all of the scheduled course meetings but will be enrolled in an independent study with the instructor. The independent study will be considered a special "Honors section" of the course and will require additional work that may include extra reading, class presentations, and advanced research-based writing. To enroll in an independent study, students will need written permission of the instructor, who will determine an Honors-appropriate workload for the course. **The proposed plan for independent study must be approved by the Honors Committee and by the Undergraduate Director prior to registration.**
 - C. A three-hour Honors thesis, supervised by a member of the English faculty. The Director of the English Honors Program will serve as instructor of record for the thesis hours. Under the direction of the instructors of the Honors seminars and/or the Director of the English Honors Program, the student will choose a member of the English Department faculty to serve as director of his/her thesis and one additional faculty member to serve as readers of the thesis. **The completed thesis must be at least 25- pages in length, not including bibliography.**
 - D. A three-hour graduate-level course. Enrollment in a graduate course is limited to Honors students in their final semester and requires written permission of the (1) Undergraduate Director, (2) Graduate Director, and (3) the instructor of the course. To be eligible, students must have completed at least one Honors seminar with a grade of A. Students **may be required to pay graduate tuition rates for a graduate course enrolled in to fulfill this requirement.**

Program Completion and Graduation Information:

4. Of the 9 hours required for Departmental Honors, a maximum of 6 hours may be counted towards the requirements for the major (historical distribution requirements or electives).
5. To graduate with Departmental Honors, the student must satisfy the following requirements:
 - A. Complete 9 hours of English Honors courses with a 3.3 GPA in those courses;
 - B. Complete all major requirements with a 3.3 GPA in the major and an overall GPA of 3.0.
6. The student who completes all requirements above will graduate with Honors in English. The credit hours completed within the program by the student who does not complete all Honors requirements will, of course, count toward the baccalaureate degree.

¹ Faculty who are willing to accommodate the extra needs of Honors students will notify the Undergraduate Director before registration to have their course put on the list of eligible courses. The Honors student will enroll in an independent study but will attend the scheduled course and complete the bulk of the reading and written requirements for the course *in addition to* a special Honors project for the course (this could include a formal presentation of research, an independent research project, a longer research paper, a long annotated bibliography, a larger collection of creative work, etc. The independent study represents 3 hours of coursework.