

HONORS PROGRAM
HANDBOOK
2024-2025

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MISSION AND VISION

HONORS PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Problem Solving using Creative and Critical Thinking

Applies critical thinking to analyze, integrate, and evaluate information. Offers novel or innovative ways of solving problems. Demonstrates ability to see and speak about ambiguities and complexity of issues.

2.

3. Scholarly Communication

Can communicate one's thoughts on paper and in speech effectively with a scholarly voice by using evidentiary support and critical reasoning, within philosophical, analytical and theoretical frameworks appropriate to the discipline. Uses appropriate citation and attribution for the discipline and joins in the scholarly discourse.

4. Intercultural Awareness

Develops the capacity to understand and interact effectively with others whose identities, beliefs, behaviors, and values differ from their own. (2.a.)

5. Scholarly and Community Engagement

Invests in the community and empowers self and others to make a positive impact on the community with a systems-approach. Demonstrate the capacity to engage in civic, social, and political responsibilities. 2.d. Reflect critically on their personal growth as a scholar. (5.b.)

U-ENGAGE AND HONORS PROGRAM STAFF

Loree Crow



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REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Students are encouraged to apply for the Honors Program as incoming first year students when they apply for admission to UNC, immediately following the receipt of their acceptance from UNC. Students may apply and enter at any stage as a UNC undergraduate student through the start of their senior year, as long as they can still complete the credit hours before their expected graduation date. The application for admission to the program requests short written statements based on thought-provoking questions. The requirements for the Honors Program can be found at www.unco.edu/honors.

The Honors Program strives to provide talented students from all backgrounds with opportunities for original thought, student-directed learning, and individualized paths of inquiry. Therefore, all students who have a passion for learning and a desire to dive deeper into their studies are encouraged to apply even if their scores from high school standardized testing do not put them in the top percentiles. The Honors Program is about providing opportunities for those who want to get more out of their academic studies and who have the drive and passion to be successful. Any incoming first year, transfer student, or current UNC student may apply for the Honors Program.*

* Students already enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado or those transferring from another college should have a minimum college GPA of 3.00, but may apply with a lower GPA, and are asked to provide additional information to ensure that they can take on the additional course work (capstone) for Honors.

BENEFITS

General Requirements:

- Complete a total of 12 credits of Honors coursework. At least 6 credits must be upper division. The Honors First Year Experience automatically satisfies 6 of these credits.
- Complete at least 4 credits of Honors Capstone requirements and an Honors Capstone project approved by the Honors Program and presented in a public forum.
- Participate in at least six Honors Connect activities.
- Achieve and maintain a minimum cumulative 3.00 UNC GPA.

Lower-Division Honors Courses: up to 6 credits

Note: Students who complete the First Year Experience will have already fulfilled 6 credits of Lower Division Honors Coursework and should choose Upper Division Courses from the list below.

Students who did not participate in the First Year Experience *may* choose up to 6 credits from the following list, though they may also choose courses from the Upper-Division Honors Course list below to satisfy the Honors Coursework requirement.

UNIV 101	Foundations for Learning and Development	3
HON 100	Honors Connections Seminar I	3
HON 180	Great Ideas in Context	3
HON 182	Confluence of Cultures	3

Note: HON 395 is repeatable under different subtitles.

HON 395	Honors Special Topics	3
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Only Honors Special Topics courses may be used to fulfill the Honors Coursework requirement (departmental special topics courses do not serve as substitutions).

Any approved departmental research methods course on the list below may be used to fulfill the Honors Coursework requirement.

HON 420	Honors Research Methods	3
ANT 340	Quantitative Methods for Anthropology	3
ANT 350	Field Methods in Cultural Anthropology	3
CHEM 499	Seminar and Research in Chemistry	1- 3
CRJ 380	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
MET 376	Meteorological COOP Education	1-12
PHYS 370	Research I	1- 3
PSY 201	Research Methods in Psychology	3
SOC 361	Methods of Sociological Research I	3
SOC 362	Methods of Sociological Research II	3
STAT 451	Intermediate Applied Statistics	3
UNIV 431	McNair Scholars Research Studies I	2

PSCI 425	Senior Seminar in International Relations	3
PSCI 435	Senior Seminar in Political	

HON 100 Honors Connections Seminar I

A variable content seminar emphasizing the connections between areas of knowledge such as the Sciences, Arts, Philosophy, History, Literature, and Sociology. Credits: 3

HON 101 Honors Introduction to Critical Thinking

An introductory course for Honors students emphasizing critical and creative thinking, perspective

HONORS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPTIONS

Students may pursue a Study Abroad, internship, practicum, student teaching or other practical based course work to count toward the upper division honors credits. There is no length requirement for a study abroad option. Allowable options may range from one-week faculty-led courses (often offered in summer or winter interim session) to a full year abroad and anything in between.

All of the following courses are pre-approved to count toward an Honors Students University Honors Program upper division credit hours.

HON 492	Honors Internship/Study Abroad	1- 4
AFS 399	Community Study Project	1-4
ANT 492	Internship	1-12
ART 492	Internship in Art	1- 5

CSD 473

COMM 492	Undergraduate Internship	1-10
CRJ 492	Internship	1- 9

CSD 474

MAS 450	Internship in Mexican American Studies	4
MUS 450	Seminar in Student Teaching for Music Educators	1
NURS 470	Clinical Practice: Professionalism in Practice	3
PHIL 492	Internship	1- 6
PSCI 392	Internship	1-13
PSY 491	Psychology Field Experience	1- 6
RTH 492	Internship in Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality	3-12
SES 492	Internship in Sport and Exercise Science	6-12
SOC 491	Sociology Internship	3- 9
SOC 492	Practicum in Applied Sociology	3- 9
SOC 493	Practicum in Family Studies	3- 9
SOC 494	Research Practicum	3- 6
SOC 496	Study Abroad Experience	3
STEP 464	Secondary Student Teaching	1-14
THEA 401	Practicum in Theatre	3- 450
THEA 450	Design and Technology Practicum	3

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RESOURCES FOR STAYING ON TRACK

Honors Program Staff, including the Graduate Assistant for Communication, Planning and Advising, provide advising each semester to all Honors Students. Honors Advising is mandatory for first-year Honors students but may be completed in various ways to be convenient for the student. Students will attend one individual advising session each semester. Group advising sessions and drop-in advising may also be offered depending on the semester.

The Honors Program office monitors student progress toward meeting course and program requirements and provides Planning Worksheets/Progress Reports to assist students with understanding the courses they must take and to document their current status in meeting all Honors-related requirements. In between Honors advising meetings, use the Program Planning Worksheet to track your own progress and plan your future honors coursework.

Honors Program course and requirement information may be found in the University of Northern Colorado Catalog at <http://catalog.unco.edu/>.

SCHOLARSHIPS & CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Becky R. Edgerton Memorial Award

This award, with a \$500 stipend, is given annually to the graduating senior who has completed a meritorious Honors thesis and who has demonstrated the greatest breadth of intellectual curiosity among Honors peers.

Paul Heidger Scholarship

The scholarship is awarded to an exceptional freshmen Honors student during their first year in the Honors Program. Preference is given to a student who is studying or planning to study the sciences.

Barbara Heidger Memorial Scholarship

The scholarship is awarded to an exceptional freshmen Honors student during their first year in the Honors Program. Preference is given to a student who has previously been involved with or has expressed an interest in International Studies.

Gregory E. and Debra K. Holman Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to a first-generation Honors Program or PLP student who has attended UNC for at least two semesters as a full-time student who is not already receiving an Honors or PLP-affiliated scholarship. The student must demonstrate evidence of civic or community engagement, with preference given to students involved in environmental advocacy, environmental education, or cultural resource preservation.

Eugene D. & Peggy J. Koplitz Scholarship Award

Each year a \$1,000 award is given to an Upper Division Honors Program senior who produced the best proposal for their Honors Thesis project. To be eligible the student must have submitted an Honors thesis proposal to the Honors Program by the applicable Spring semester deadline, with approval as required by the handbook from the thesis advisor(s).

Marie Livingston Scholarship

High academic achievement, evidence of civic engagement in local, state, national, or international communities, professional organizations or student clubs, and satisfactory progression through the Honors curriculum are some of the criteria considered for the Marie Livingston Scholarship. Preference is given to Economics or International Studies majors. The scholarship is awarded to current Honors students who have completed at least two semesters of continuous, full-time enrollment in the UNC Honors Program prior to the year of award.

Phelps Family C.A.P. Awards

Championed by UNC friends Bob and Bonnie Phelps Family, the CAP Awards recognize students whose lives demonstrate an exceptional and exemplary personal commitment to:

- **Contribute**
passion around issues in service to the community.
- **Achieve**
setbacks, and accomplishing goals.
- **Pay-it-forward**

Undergraduate Research Summer Stipends and Research Grants

When funding is available, a limited number of research grants are available for use on thesis-related research. Currently all research grants are administered through the Office of Undergraduate Research. For more information and guidelines, go to the website at: <https://www.unco.edu/office-undergraduate-research/>

National Scholarship Opportunities

A number of national organizations look favorably on Honors student applicants for their scholarship and fellowship programs. Many of the programs are highly competitive so students should plan to give appropriate time to crafting well prepared applications supported by strong letters of recommendation and other required documents if they apply to one or more of these programs. UNC Honors Program Students have applied for and been awarded or finalists in the following scholarship programs: Marshall, Rhodes (Finalist), Rotary International, Truman (Finalist), and others.

Honors students have the chance to attend annual conferences at which they present their research and learn about the work that other university students are engaged in. Funding may be available to assist with travel expenses. Please contact the Honors office for additional information.

NCUR (National Conference on Undergraduate Research)

Honors students may compete annually to attend NCUR. The conference is held each year for students from all colleges and universities across the nation to present their research to a national audience. Students must first submit their research abstract to the Fall Undergraduate Research symposium to be eligible for consideration to represent UNC at NCUR. Seniors completing their Honors projects who are engaged in research are encouraged to apply.

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM



HONORS CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE - PROGRAM PLAN 2024-2025

Name : _____ Today's Date: _____

E-mail: _____ Expected Graduation Semester: _____

Major(s): _____ UNC Status: _____

HCE-Transfer

HCE-Current UNC

HCE/Dual McNair Scholars

University Honors Capstone Experience Requirements

- Completion of a minimum of 4 course credits towards Honors Program capstone curriculum.
- Present Honors Capstone in a public forum.
- Participate in at least six Honors Connect activities.
- Achieve and maintain a minimum cumulative 3.00 UNC GPA.

Honors Capstone Coursework

Complete a minimum of 4 credits towards the Honors Capstone requirement.
 Honors Capstone is also required for completion of University Honors Program Distinction.

Honors Capstone Project Design – 2 credits minimum

Take at least two credits from the following.

LIB251 should generally be taken concurrent with HON351.	Semester Planned/Completed
LIB251 Research as Inquiry (1 credit)	_____
AND	
HON351 Junior Honors Seminar (1 credit concurrent w/ LIB251)	_____
OR	
UNIV432 McNair Scholars Research II (2 credits)	_____

Honors Capstone Project – 2 credits minimum

Take at least two credits from the following.

HON 451 is repeatable with a maximum of 3 credit hours. Students may complete their Capstone Project through HON 451 or any equivalent departmental capstone course on the list in the catalog. Students may complete the 2 credits by enrolling in 1 credit per semester for 2 semesters, and the semesters do not need to be consecutive.

	Semester Planned/Completed	
HON451 Senior Honors Thesis.		# credits _____