Honors Points System Overview

HONORS PROGRAM

Fall 2020

This document is an introduction to the Honors points system and an outline of the categories and the type of activities that will go toward point accumulation. Full details are in the Honors Student Handbook. The charts below summarize the requirements to graduate with University Honors and lists the options for students to earn the needed 20 Honors points. Evaluate these options to begin preparing your strategy to earn your 20 Honors points.

Each student meets individually with a faculty advisor and the Honors Director to create a personalized plan for accumulating Honors points. Study abroad and Scholarship category options particularly require early planning, as optimization of points here will take work as early as your freshman year.

Overview: Requirements and Guidelines

Requirements for Graduation with University Honors	1. 20 Honors Points 2. 3.5 GPA 3. Attendance at minimum of 2 All-Honors Gatherings each semester 4. Completion of the Bucket List
Honors Points may be earned in 3 categories	1. Curriculum 2. Scholarship 3. Self-Development
Honors Points: Suggested Earning Guidelines	1. Freshmen: 6 in first year, 4-5 in each subsequent year 2. Sophs/Juniors: 2-4 first year, 5-7 in each subsequent year
Minimum GPA requirement for each term	1. 3.25 GPA for first three semesters 2. 3.35 by end of second year 3. Should reach 3.5 by third year 4. Students put on probation for one semester if not meeting the minimum requirements; must meet target GPA by end of probationary semester or make significant progress to stay in program
General Process and Procedure	1. Forms are available on Blackboard to submit point requests through the assignment function. 2. The Grading Center will track accumulated points. 3. Students must submit requests for points by the announced date of each semester term.

Curriculum Category

Minimum Number Points Required	10 points = Intro to Honors course plus 4 three-hour courses earning at least a 3.0 in each class
Honors work supports degree program but is in addition to regular coursework	Requirements of students' undergraduate programs (e.g., coursework, research projects, and service experiences) may meet the requirements of the Honors Program with contracting (details below)
Ways to Earn Curriculum Points	1. Designated honors courses 2. Regular courses contracted for honors credit
Information on Honors Courses	1. Required courses for all students include Intro to Honors, Composition II (waived for those entering w/Comp II credit), and either Intellectual Quest or Theological Anthropology (upper level PHIL/RELS course required for those already w/1000 level PHIL/RELS credit) 2. New courses are coming online, which will be offered on a two-year rotating cycle
Contracting Regular Courses for Honors Credit	1. Can select an upper level course in major or minor for contracting 2. Guidelines and examples for contract work are on Blackboard 3. Talk to instructor *at time of registration* to see if contracting possible 4. Contract requires approval of instructor and Council

Scholarship Category

Minimum Number Points Required	1 point
Ways to earn Scholarship points	1. Summer research program 2. Project with faculty mentor 3. Presentation of creative work or research results 4. Publication of work
Summer Research Programs	Examples: 1. Welch Chemistry Program (1 pt) 2. Research Experience for Undergraduates (10-wk REU) (2 pts)
Research work	1. Thesis (current honors project) 2. Faculty-led project over 2 semester minimum; requires abstract (proposal) before starting and summary paper for honors points 3. Capstone project; requires abstract and summary paper
Creative work	1. Thesis 2. Faculty-led project over 2 semester minimum; requires abstract (proposal) before starting and summary paper for honors points 3. Capstone project; requires abstract and summary paper 4. Exhibition, production or performance
Podium and Poster Presentations	1. Juried conferences (2 pts) 2. Conference of professional or academic organization (2 pts) 3. UIW Research Week (1 pt) 4. Honors Symposium (1 pt)
Publication	1. Refereed professional or undergraduate journal (2 pts) 2. Conference Proceedings (1 pt) 3. Submission to refereed professional Journal (1 pt) 4. In-house publications (1 pt) 5. Book review published in refereed publication (1 pt)

Self-Development Category

Minimum Point Requirements	2 points
Ways to Earn Self-Development Points	1. Leadership 2. Service 3. Study Abroad 4. Integrative Reflection Paper 5. Internship of at least 100 hours
Internships	1. 100+ hours earns 1 point 2. 200+ hours earns 2 points
Leadership Options	1. Officer in organization over two semesters; requires list of year's goals at beginning of year and substantiation of contributions by advisor (2 pts) 2. Completion of documented leadership program under the direction of a UIW approved program (1 pt) 3. All options require a resume of student accomplishments during service
Service Options	1. 75 hours of service (1 pt) 2. 90 hours of service (2 pts) 3. Development of sustainable program in line with UIW mission (2 pts) 4. Requires reflection paper
Study Abroad	1. Fall, spring, summer semester (2 pts) 2. Experience < full semester (1 pt) 3. Trip associated with course (1 pt) 4. Requires reflection paper 5. Presentation of int'l experience through the Study Abroad Office (1 pt)
Integrative Reflection Paper	1. Synthesizes information gained and lessons learned throughout student's self-development process (2 pts) 2. Experiences would include such things as internships, research, service, academic growth, exposure to new/different experiences