

Clayton State University

Honors Program Handbook

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Clayton State University Honors Program Handbook

I. Overview

The Clayton State University Honors Program creates opportunities for students to get a step ahead in developing their academic and leadership skills. Involvement in the Honors program offers students unique opportunities to develop important connections with faculty and other talented students to make the most of their college experience.

Opportunities for students in the Honors Program include:

- Enhanced course sections reserved for Honors students
- Eligibility for Honors Scholarships
- Early registration
- Study Abroad opportunities
- Honors seal on diploma
- Honors recognition at commencement
- Mentoring and career planning
- Campus and community leadership opportunities
- Priority consideration for admission to the Nursing and Dental Hygiene programs if Honors student meets all program requirements

The Honors Program offers two tracks:

1. University Honors (18 credit hours)
2. College Honors (9 credit hours)

University Honors

The University Honors Program accepts students with fewer than 30 hours of college credit. The minimum admission requirements are a 3.5 high school GPA.

College Honors

The College Honors Program accepts students with 30 or more hours of college credit and offers an enriched education as students complete the courses for their major. The minimum admission requirement is a cumulative 3.5 college GPA.

The table on page 3 summarizes the features of the two Honors Programs.

	University Honors	College Honors
Entry Point	Fewer than 30 Hours	30 or More Hours
Admission Standards	3.5 High School GPA	3.5 GPA for All College Coursework
Honors Coursework	18 credit hours	9 credit hours
Academic Requirements	3.0 College GPA	3.0 College GPA
Activity Requirements	12 points per semester	12 points per semester
Recognition	Honors Seal on Diploma and Honors Medallion	Honors Seal on Diploma and Honors Medallion

II. Curriculum Requirements

GPA Requirement

Honors students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA to remain in good standing.

Academic Probation and Dismissal

- If at the end of a semester a student's cumulative GPA drops below 3.00, the student will be placed on Academic Probation for the next semester in which the student is enrolled.
- If at the end of an Academic Probation semester the student's cumulative GPA is still below 3.00, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Honors Course Credit

University Honors

To graduate with Honors Program distinction, University Honors students must complete a total of 18 hours of Honors Coursework.*

1. Honors CRIT 1101 – Fall, Freshman
2. Honors PHIL 2010 – Spring, Sophomore
3. Honors HUMN 2111 – Spring, Sophomore
4. Other Approved Honors Coursework (see below)
5. Other Approved Honors Coursework (see below)

* This sequence is recommended, not required. Honors courses may be taken in any order.

College Honors

To graduate with Honors Program distinction, College Honors students must complete a total of 9 hours of Honors Coursework as follows:

1. Honors CRIT 1101 or Honors HUMN 2111
2. Other Approved Honors Coursework (see below)
3. Other Approved Honors Coursework (see below)

Students must receive a grade of B or higher in an approved Honors course to receive Honors credit for that course. A lower grade may still count as academic credit towards graduation, but will not be applied to the Honors course credit requirement.

Note

- Only Honors CRIT 1101 and Honors HUMN 2111 satisfy Honors Program CRIT and HUMN requirements. Students with non-Honors CRIT 1101 or HUMN 2111 credit must still satisfy the Honors CRIT/HUMN requirements (which vary by track, see above), by enrolling in the relevant class, which will appear on the transcript as an upper-division elective, for example, HUMN 4800.
- Honors CRIT 1101 is offered only in the Fall, on campus.
- Honors HUMN 2111 is offered only in the Spring, on campus.
- Honors PHIL 2010 is offered only in the Spring, on campus.

Types of Honors Courses

Clayton State offers Honors courses in a variety of formats and some alternative ways to earn Honors credit. Qualified students who are not in the Honors Program may enroll in Honors courses if space is available and with the approval of the Honors Program Director.

Honors Courses are innovative courses designed exclusively for the Honors Program. These courses are often interdisciplinary or based on a contemporary theme. When available, these courses will be identified in the DUCK with the letter 'H' following the section number.

Contract Courses allow Honors students to enhance a regular course for Honors credit. Students must submit to the Honors Program Director a contract signed by the instructor within two weeks of beginning the course. Course availability is determined by whether an instructor is willing to supervise the contract. Part-time faculty may not administer course contracts.

Independent Study Courses allow students to work one-on-one with a faculty member. The availability of independent study courses depends upon a student's major and whether a faculty member is willing to supervise the course. Part-time faculty may not administer Honors Independent Study Courses.

Study Abroad Courses may be counted as Honors credit. Each semester will count as 3 hours of Honors credit regardless of the number of academic credit hours completed while studying abroad.

Alternative Honors Credit Opportunities

In addition to completing Honors courses, students may earn Honors course credit through alternative means. These alternatives apply only towards Honors credit and do not count as academic credit towards a degree.

Research Assistant: Honors students working with a faculty member on an approved research project may earn up to 1 hour of Honors credit for every 10 hours of research (maximum of 6 credits per year).

III. Activity Requirements

- Community service and participation in campus activities are means to developing leadership skills and contributing to the campus and the surrounding community.
- Honors students are required to earn 12 activity points each Fall and Spring semester (Presidential Scholars must earn 15 service points each Fall and Spring semester).
- Fall points must be earned before the start of the subsequent Spring semester and Spring points must be earned by the start of the subsequent Fall semester.
- Points are earned through various service and scholarly activities (see below for examples). Usually 1 hour of service or participation will count for 1 service point.
- The Honors Program Director will determine whether an activity merits service points and the number of points to be assigned. Verify with the Director whether an event qualifies for service points prior to your participation.
- Points from one semester may not count toward another semester.
- Students admitted to the Honors Program after the commencement of a semester do not have to meet any service requirement during the semester of admission.

Examples of Service Point Activities

Activity	Point Value
Attending HSA general meeting	2
Serving as an HSA Officer	12-15
HSA Committee Meeting	1/hr.
HSA Social Activity	2
Student Organization Officer	1/hr.
CSU Athletics team member	4
Approved Service Learning Course	3 - 15
Attending Approved Lecture	1/hr.
Attend Academic Conference	6
Present Paper/Poster	6-15
Peer reviewed publication	12-15
Other Approved Service Activity	1/hr.

Activity Probation and Dismissal

Students who do not meet the activity requirement will be placed on Activity Probation. A student on Activity Probation who fails a second time to earn the requisite 12 service points (15 service points for Presidential Scholars) during any semester will be dismissed from the program.

Earning Activity Points between Semesters

Activity points earned between the Fall and Spring semesters may be credited toward either semester. For example, Summer activities may be credited toward the previous Spring or the following Fall.

Reporting and Tracking Activity Points

Participation in group activities (e.g. blood drives or Lyceum presentations) is reported by a designated student using the Service Activities group form. Each participating student must check in with the designated student who will be submitting the form. The form must then be submitted to the Honors Program Director within 7 days of the event.

Service activities that are carried out individually (e.g. Habitat for Humanity and Hands-On Atlanta) are reported using the Service/Activity Report Form for Individuals. All individual projects must be pre-approved via email by the Honors Program Director: AlexanderHall@Clayton.edu.

Students may monitor their service/activity points for the semester by clicking on the My Grades link on the Honors D2L site.

IV. Honors Academic Code of Conduct

Any Honors student twice found guilty of Academic Misconduct while enrolled in the Honors Program at Clayton State University will be dismissed from the Honors Program. Students who have been found guilty of Academic Misconduct prior to their admission to the Honors Program may still be admitted into the Honors Program, but any violation of Academic Misconduct policy subsequent to their admission to the Honors Program will result in their dismissal from the Honors Program. A student dismissed from the Honors Program on account of the violation of Academic Misconduct policy cannot be readmitted to the Honors Program. For information regarding Academic Misconduct, click here: <https://www.clayton.edu/community-standards/docs/student-code-of-conduct.pdf>

For Additional Information Contact:

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Honors Program Director

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Or visit our website at:

[Http://HonorsProgram.Clayton.edu](http://HonorsProgram.Clayton.edu)