

Honors Program Reference Guide

Effective AY 2026-2027

General Studies Honors

- **Qualifications**
 - Incoming freshmen must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and an ACT score of 26 or higher.
 - Incoming freshmen who have a GPA of 3.6 or higher do not need an ACT score.
 - Current students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher. If a current student has more than 32 college credit hours, they may only pursue Majors Honors.

- **Requirements**
 - 12 credits of General Studies Honors courses
 - 4 credits of Honors Colloquia courses
 - HON 195 (2 credits)
 - HON 395 (2 credits)
 - Students must enroll in HON 195 their first semester (Fall).
 - 2 credits of UNV 201 (Community Service Learning)
 - Students enroll in this by visiting the Center for Service in Eder Hall 202.
 - Total of 18 credit hours
 - Students must earn a grade of B or higher for the course to count towards General Studies Honors.
 - Students must have a GPA of 3.25 or higher at the time of General Studies Honors completion.

- **Exceptions**
 - If students/advisors are finding it difficult to fill the 12 credit hours of General Studies Honors due to scheduling conflicts, the Honors Program will accept additional Honors Colloquia credits. Any Honors Colloquia credit taken over the required 4 credits will then count towards the General Studies Honors credits.
 - Students can also submit an Honors-by-Contract for a non-honors general study course to count towards the requirements (see Honors-by-Contract below).
 - If incoming freshmen have earned at least two A's in ECA coursework, then six General Studies Honors credits will be waived from the General Studies Honors Program.
 - If students have earned at least six AP credits with a score of 4 or higher on the exam, then six General Studies Honors credits will be waived from the General Studies Honors Program.

Majors Honors

- **Qualifications**
 - Students must be considered a junior or senior in order to start Majors Honors.
 - Students must have a faculty member within their major to support and guide the student through their research project.
 - Students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

- **Requirements**
 - Complete a research project or creative work under the guidance of a professor within the major.
 - Present the research somewhere OR submit for publication.
 - Complete 6 credit hours of 300+ level honors coursework within the major.
 - Students will complete an Honors-by-Contract for a 300+ level course within their major (e.g. HIS 340, PSY 430, BIO 375).
 - 2 credit hours of Honors Colloquia (HON395)

- 1 credit of UNV 201 (Community Service Learning)
 - Students enroll in this by visiting the Center for Service in Eder Hall 202.
- Total of 9 credit hours if the student is completing Majors Honors only.
 - Total of 24 credit hours if the student has already completed General Studies Honors.
- Submit a Majors Honors Progress Report form. This form can be found on the Honors website under “Forms”. It can also be found by going to the A-Z Search and searching under “Forms- Students” and “Forms- Employees”. The submission of this form will automatically be sent to the Honors Program once it is filled out. (This Dynamic Form is in the process of being created and will be ready by the start of the 2024-2025 academic year.)
- Send a copy of your project/thesis paper to the Honors Program via email at honors@missouriwestern.edu
- Students must earn a grade of B or higher for the course to count towards Majors Honors.
- Students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher at the time of Majors Honors completion.

Miscellaneous Information

- **Remaining in Honors**
 - Students must maintain a GPA of 3.25 or higher for General Studies Honors and a GPA of 3.5 or higher for Majors Honors.
 - Students must show progress within the program by taking at least 1 course each semester that counts towards the program until they have completed all requirements.
- **Application Process**
 - Applications for the General Studies Honors and Majors Honors have been changed from a paper-based application to an online Google Form. The applications can be found on the Honors website under “Forms”.
- **Honors- By- Contract (HBC)**
 - The HBC form has been changed from a paper-based form to an online Dynamic Form. It can be found on the Honors website under “Forms”. It can also be found by going to the A-Z Search and searching under “Forms- Students” and “Forms- Employees”.
 - Students will start the HBC process by filling out their portion of the form. Then it will be sent to the faculty member teaching the course for approval. Then, on to the Honors Director for final approval.
 - An HBC cannot be created for Honors Colloquia courses (HON 195 and HON 395).
- **Always Honors**
 - PHY 210, MAT 165, and MAT 167 are always considered Honors courses and will count towards General Studies Honors.

**For more detailed information regarding the Honors Program, students can refer to the Student Handbook located on the Honors website, or by contacting the Honors Office.

Please contact us for any question!

honors@missouriwestern.edu

816-271-4510