



Policy on “Honorizing” a Course

The Honors Program strongly encourages students to complete their Honors course requirements through designated Honors courses specifically designed to meet the academic expectations and learning outcomes of the program. In limited circumstances, however, a student may request to enhance a non-Honors course so that it may count toward their Honors course requirements. This process is known as “Honorizing” a course.

Honorizing is intended to provide flexibility when an appropriate Honors course is not available to a student. It should not be used as a substitute for enrolling in regularly offered Honors courses.

Honors Learning Outcomes

An Honorized course must include a substantive component that meaningfully advances one or more of the Honors Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Creative Inquiry and Critical Curiosity
2. Sophisticated Interdisciplinary Communication
3. Advanced Research Proficiency and Innovation
4. Cultural Humility
5. Social Connectedness and Community Engagement
6. Empowered Self-Discovery and Growth

Honorized Course Component

The student and course instructor must agree upon an additional or enhanced component that extends the intellectual work of the course and brings the student's experience closer to the expectations of a designated Honors course. Appropriate options may include:

- **Research:** Completing an additional or substantially expanded research project related to the course material.
- **Presentation or Leadership:** Presenting research, leading class discussions, or developing another form of advanced oral or written communication.
- **Applied or Experiential Work:** Completing a hands-on, creative, community-engaged, or other experiential project that extends the learning objectives of the course.
- **Other High-Impact Work:** Completing another substantive project or experience that deepens the student's engagement with the course and clearly advances one or more Honors Learning Outcomes.

Simply increasing the quantity of required coursework is not sufficient. The Honorized component should deepen, extend, or transform the student's engagement with the subject matter.

Eligibility and Course Limitations

Students requesting to Honorize a course must be in good standing with the Honors Program, with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.50, at the time of application.

Students may use no more than two Honorized courses toward their Honors course requirements unless an exception is approved by the Honors administration. For purposes of this limit, Honors internships and approved non-Honors study abroad experiences count as Honorized courses, even though they may follow different approval processes.

The Honors Program will not normally approve Honorizing a course for which an Honors version is regularly offered. Students are expected to plan their schedules around designated Honors offerings, and the Honors Program provides students with information about when these courses are expected to be offered. Exceptions will be considered only in extenuating circumstances, such as an unavoidable scheduling conflict that prevented the student from taking the Honors version and when no reasonable alternative Honors course was available.

Courses taken during the summer term may not be Honorized unless the student receives special permission from the Honors administration in advance.

Application and Approval

The student and instructor should develop the proposed Honors component together and the Faculty Instruct should submit the Enhanced Honors Course Contract for approval.

Applications must be received by:

- September 15 for fall-semester courses
- January 20 for spring-semester courses

Applications received after these deadlines will not be approved.

Approval is not automatic. The Honors Program will review the proposed work to determine whether it provides sufficient academic depth, aligns with Honors Learning Outcomes, and is appropriate for Honors credit. Students will receive email confirmation if their request is approved. A course is not considered approved for Honorization until that confirmation has been received. Students should not assume that submitting an application guarantees approval.

Once approved, the Honorized component becomes part of the student's expectations for receiving Honors credit for the course. The student is responsible for completing the approved work in consultation with the course instructor. The Registrar will update the course in self-service at the end of the semester.

Honorizing is intended to be an occasional option rather than a primary means of completing Honors course requirements. Students should prioritize designated Honors courses whenever possible and plan their academic schedules accordingly.