

# HONORS PROGRAM

## Program Description

The Honors Program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi offers an enriched plan of study to highly motivated students who have the capacity to excel academically and a strong and abiding determination to reach their greatest intellectual potential. We pride ourselves on being an experience-based program that helps students develop the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce or graduate education, by focusing on three key areas of personal development: undergraduate research, study away, and volunteerism. Students admitted to our selective community of scholars will receive the following direct benefits:

### Undergraduate Research/Creative Experience

- Study with outstanding faculty
- Work on original research
- Honors research fellowships

### Study Away Experience

- Travel away
- Attend conferences
- Travel to professional events

### Service Learning Experience

- Community outreach
- Skills-relevant curriculum
- Course credit for internships

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Honors Program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills, to include: creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. Demonstrate communication skills, to include: the effective development and interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

## Admission Requirements

Students can apply for admission to the Honors Program by completing the general application for admission to the university (ApplyTexas) and choose if they want to apply to the program. If they select "yes" they will be taken to a secondary application for the Program that can be submitted automatically with their general application. Students will be admitted on a rolling basis to the program as space allows for those meeting the requirements outlined on the Honors Program website ([honors.tamucc.edu](http://honors.tamucc.edu) (<http://honors.tamucc.edu>)). The Director and Program Coordinator will review the application as part of the admissions process prior to making invitations to join the Program. The Program will host open houses for prospective students.

## Contact

For further information contact the Honors Program.

**Web site:**  
<http://honors.tamucc.edu>

**Campus Address:**  
CCH 262; phone: (361) 825-3926

**Mailing Address:**  
Honors Program  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5751

**E-Mail:**  
[honors@tamucc.edu](mailto:honors@tamucc.edu)

## Program Requirements

### Curriculum and Requirements

In order to graduate from the Honors Program at TAMU-CC and receive an Honors designation on the diploma, students have broad discretion over the kinds of curricular, research, and service learning experiences they can explore in order to meet our program requirements.

The minimum requirements to remain in good standing and complete the Honors Program are as follows:

| Code                                | Title                               | Hours     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Required Courses</b>             |                                     |           |
| HONR 1101                           | Honors Campus Leadership Seminar    | 1         |
| HONR 1102                           | Honors Community Leadership Seminar | 1         |
| HONR 2101                           | Honors Experience Seminar           | 1         |
| HONR 3101                           | Project of Excellence Seminar I     | 1         |
| HONR 4101                           | Project of Excellence Seminar II    | 1         |
| HONR 4102                           | Project of Excellence Seminar III   | 1         |
| <b>Elective Honors Courses</b>      |                                     |           |
| Select 12 hours of Honors electives |                                     | 12        |
| <b>Total Hours</b>                  |                                     | <b>18</b> |

### Elective Honors Courses

Students are encouraged to take elective Honors courses that enhance their college experience. Any course offered at TAMU-CC has the potential to be an elective Honors course option. Honors courses may be offered each semester from across the Colleges; some of these courses may be stacked courses in that they may require the Honors student to complete additional readings, assignments, etc. Elective Honors courses will be listed under Honors in SAIL and also denoted as Honors courses by the "H" code assigned to the course section. Standalone Honors courses may also be offered. The Director and Program Coordinator will have discretion over whether transfer courses or other substitutions can meet these requirements.

Students are expected to take the Honors Seminar courses in sequence as they progress through their academic studies. The Director and Program Coordinator will have discretion over whether transfer courses or other substitutions can meet these requirements.

### Honors Electives Counting Towards a Major/Minor Course Requirement

Course requirements for a major or minor are determined by the faculty in each corresponding academic discipline, and variations in the major/minor requirements are subject to the approval of the faculty in that area. Therefore, the student should consult the description of the major/minor in the section of the catalog dedicated to that discipline. Questions

about the major/minor course work should be directed to the appropriate advisor within the major/minor discipline.

### Major/Minor Courses Counting Towards an Honors Elective Course Requirement

Only 3 hours of major/minor course requirements may be applied as Honors elective credits. However, a student may choose to exclude a class from the major or minor course requirements and use the course exclusively for Honors elective course requirements.

| Code  | Title                                      | Hours |
|---|--|-------|
| <b>Possible Honors electives include the following:</b> |  |       |
| HONR 3340   | Academic and Field Research                |       |
| HONR 3390   | Topics in the Humanities                   |       |
| HONR 3490   | Topics in the Sciences                     |       |
| HONR 3491   | Science and Technology for Decision Makers |       |
| HONR 4390   | Seminar in the Humanities                  |       |
| HONR 4396   | Honors Directed Independent Study          |       |
| HONR 4397   | Honors Internship                          |       |
| HONR 4398   | Honors Applied Experience                  |       |
| HONR 4490   | Seminar in the Sciences                    |       |

### Further Program Requirements

- Successfully complete and publicly defend an original research project: the Project of Excellence (POE).
- Attend at least one professional conference or participate in a study away activity.
- Engage in sufficient service activities as determined by the Director and Program Coordinator, in consultation with the Honors Student Association.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher in all coursework and 3.0 in all Honors courses.
- Meet with the Honors Program Coordinator each semester for advising.
- Maintain enrollment and active participation in the Program.
- Students not remaining in good standing over two continuous semesters either through grades, enrollment, or participation can be asked to leave the Program at the discretion of the Director and Program Coordinator.

## Courses

### HONR 1101 Honors Campus Leadership Seminar 1 Semester Credit Hour (1 Lecture Hour)

This course is intended to serve as an introduction to the Honors Program, its requirements and the Program's commitment to service, as well as the Honors Student Association. In an effort to prepare students to be campus and community leaders, students learn the organizational structure of the campus and engage in various events to become familiar with the campus and our surrounding community, its traditions and its needs. Students take this course in addition to UNIV 1101 – First-Year Seminar

### HONR 1102 Honors Community Leadership Seminar 1 Semester Credit Hour (2 Lecture Hours)

This course provides a framework and guidance for leadership and service. Students will make connections with campus and community leaders in order to begin charting their path toward service. Students take this course in addition to UNIV 1102 – First-Year Seminar.

### HONR 2101 Honors Experience Seminar 1 Semester Credit Hour (2 Lecture Hours)

In the Honors Experience Seminar students begin the exploration process for their Project of Excellence. This includes honing information literacy skills, discovering ways to make connections with potential faculty mentors, and connecting the Project of Excellence to personal career and life goals. In addition, students will investigate possibilities for travel, service and research that will help them achieve academic, personal and professional goals. Students will also create a plan for earning their Honors elective credits.

### HONR 3101 Project of Excellence Seminar I 1 Semester Credit Hour (2 Lecture Hours)

This seminar culminates in the completion of a Preliminary Proposal for the Project of Excellence with the guidance and approval of the course instructor and the student's faculty mentor. As part of the Preliminary Proposal, the student will complete a timeline that sets a course for project completion in time for graduation. In addition, students will be introduced to TAMUCC's Research Compliance process and will complete any training necessary for his/her project. Students must successfully complete HONR 3101 in order to register for HONR 4101.

### HONR 3340 Academic and Field Research 3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

Examination of the assumptions and questions underlying research methods across disciplines, with special emphasis on how methodologies from different fields (such as science and humanities) can complement each other. The course will address issues such as 1) the distinct qualities of quantitative and qualitative research, 2) current uses of surveys, interviews, and market research, 3) the construction of new knowledge in various disciplines, from problem to publication, 4) the critical use and evaluation of electronic and print resources, archival materials, government documents, and scholarly list serves.

### HONR 3390 Topics in the Humanities 1-4 Semester Credit Hours (1-4 Lecture Hours)

A course that deals with significant contemporary issues in the arts, humanities, and/or education. May be repeated when topics vary.

### HONR 3490 Topics in the Sciences 1-4 Semester Credit Hours (1-3 Lecture Hours, 1 Lab Hour)

A course that deals with significant contemporary issues in the disciplines of the natural sciences, health sciences, social sciences, and/or business. May be repeated when topics vary.

### HONR 3491 Science and Technology for Decision Makers 4 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours)

A course in the natural sciences concerned with the interdisciplinary nature of science, the formal tools and techniques of critically evaluating scientific research, and the use of qualitative and quantitative data in the application of science and technology.

### HONR 4101 Project of Excellence Seminar II 1 Semester Credit Hour (2 Lecture Hours)

This seminar culminates in the completion of full proposal for the Project of Excellence. The proposal is completed with the guidance and approval of both the course instructor and the faculty mentor. Students must successfully complete HONR 4101 in order to register for HONR 4102.

### HONR 4102 Project of Excellence Seminar III 1 Semester Credit Hour

A seminar devoted to the completion of the Project of Excellence.

**HONR 4390 Seminar in the Humanities****1-4 Semester Credit Hours (1-4 Lecture Hours)**

Study of specialized topics and themes in arts, humanities, and education. May be repeated when topics vary.

**HONR 4396 Honors Directed Independent Study****1,3 Semester Credit Hours**

Individual supervised study / research. Requires a formal proposal of study to be completed in advance of registration to be approved by a supervising faculty member and the Honors Director and Program Coordinator. Only 3 semester hours of Honors independent study credit may be counted toward the Honors graduation requirement.

**HONR 4397 Honors Internship****3 Semester Credit Hours**

Practical experience related to the student's major field. Activity must be connected to an academic research question and a body of knowledge that addresses some aspect of the activity to be undertaken. Internships require approval by the Honors Director and Program Coordinator. At the close of the internship, a written report and self-assessment must be submitted to a supervising faculty member and the Honors Program office. Internship is offered on a pass/fail basis and students must volunteer a minimum of 120 hours and meet the course objectives in order to receive course credit.

**HONR 4398 Honors Applied Experience****3 Semester Credit Hours**

Practical experience connected to the student's field of study, usually with a service or leadership component. Applied experience requires approval by the Honors Director and Program Coordinator. Activity must be connected to an academic research question and a body of knowledge that addresses some aspect of the activity to be undertaken, and result in a written product submitted to a supervising faculty member and the Honors Program office. Applied Experience is offered on a pass/fail basis and students must volunteer a minimum of 120 hours and meet the course objectives in order to receive course credit.

**HONR 4490 Seminar in the Sciences****1-4 Semester Credit Hours (1-3 Lecture Hours, 1 Lab Hour)**

Study of specialized topics and themes in the sciences, health sciences, social sciences, and business. May be repeated when topics vary.