WHAT IS THE HONORS COLLEGE?

Located on the second floor of the Randall Library, the Honors College directs the 4-year honors curriculum (University Honors) and Departmental Honors, supports undergraduate research for all UNCW graduates, offers opportunities to develop a global perspective, and mentors students through the application process for national scholarships and fellowships.

INTRODUCTION

At the Honors College, we deeply value your service as veterans and active duty members and the sacrifices of your families. You bring unique strengths and life experiences to campus and are among those who put forward the greatest effort, seriousness, and commitment into college endeavors. In the Honors College, you can obtain an enriched college experience by challenging yourself academically, furthering scholarly inquiry, and heightening your career opportunities.

WHY HONORS?

1. Small-college environment with the benefits and resources of a larger university
2. Be a more competitive candidate when applying for grad school and entering the job market
3. Work with academically talented students who are focused, hard-working and motivated like you
4. Special honors designation on your transcript and diploma
5. Your community on campus
6. Faculty mentorship
7. Networking opportunities
8. Create a context around your major
9. Develop your own unique story

If you were not a high academic achiever while in high school, don’t worry. Come to UNCW, do well during your first semester, get involved, and apply to the Honors College.

“Smaller class sizes are what ultimately drew me in because I knew I’d have a better learning experience. Professors can teach a subject in much finer detail, and that appealed to me”
- Haidar Saad ’23, veteran

To apply to the Honors College: https://uncw.edu/honors/admissions/application.html

To enroll in Departmental Honors: https://uncw.edu/honors/academics/departmental honors/enroll.html

Questions? Contact Dr. Eva M. Mehl, Assoc. Dir of the Honors College (mehle@uncw.edu)
TWO DIFFERENT HONORS EXPERIENCES

UNIVERSITY HONORS
Consider this path if you are...
- a UNCW freshman
- a UNCW transfer with less than 35-40 transfer credit hours
- a current UNCW student at the freshman or beginning sophomore level

WHAT IS IT?
- A 4-year path curriculum
- A combination of co-curricular activities, honors seminars, honors sections of university studies courses, courses in your major, and a 6-credit Honors research project
- You must graduate with at least a 3.5 GPA
- You must earn 29 Honors credit hours (only 8-11 hours are additional because Honors requirements overlap with your major and University Studies)
- 6 Honors credit hours are waived for transfers and UNCW students who join the Honors college after first fall semester

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?
- Priority registration
- Small classes (capped at 20)
- Student-faculty interaction
- A challenging, provocative curriculum with applied learning inside and outside the classroom and interdisciplinary courses (often team-taught)
- Merit scholarships
- Honors student lounge in library
- Leadership skills and campus involvement
- Interact with students from different majors
- Service and cultural activities and Honors signature events
- Honors seminars with short-term study abroad experiences

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS
Consider this path if you are...
- a UNCW transfer with more than 35-40 transfer credit hours
- a UNCW sophomore or junior

WHAT IS IT?
- A 6-credit Honors research project (final paper and oral defense)
- An opportunity to contribute to an ongoing scholarly conversation
- It looks different in every major: a survey of consumers, a data analysis of flounder stomachs, the critical evaluation of the narrative in a TV show, the production of a film, or the showcase of an art exhibition
- Take over two, 3-credit hour semesters or three, 2-credit hour semesters (ex. BIO 499)
- You need a 3.2 (including transfer credit) and 74 hours (at least 30 at UNCW)

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?
- Work one-on-one with a faculty supervisor
- Earn three (3) 499 credit hours towards your major
- Hone written and oral communication skills
- Develop independent work skills
- Prepare for graduate-level research
- Fellowships and scholarships for undergraduate research
- Financial support to present your research at Honors and discipline-based conferences
- Some exceptional theses get published in academic journals
- Learn more about yourself, the research process, and a topic that interests you

University Honors includes Departmental Honors, but Departmental Honors does not include University Honors.