Honors College

Mission and Objectives
The Honors College at the University of Arkansas brings together more than 3,000 high-achieving students and 700 of the university’s top faculty members in a learning environment characterized by discovery, creativity, and service. Founded in 2002 with a large portion of the $300 million gift from the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation, the Honors College has a substantial endowment for undergraduate research and study abroad.

The mission of the Honors College is to build a vibrant, diverse learning community that engages in transformative experiences that prepare our students to excel professionally, flourish personally and lead globally. To achieve this mission, the Honors College collaborates with honors programs across campus to provide a flexible, interdisciplinary honors curriculum that fosters creative and critical thinking and inspires action. The Honors College encompasses the honors programs from each undergraduate college or school.

Facilities and Resources
The Honors College is housed in a new, 21,000-square foot addition to Gearhart Hall, a historic Collegiate Gothic structure located in the heart of campus. Honors students enjoy a spacious lounge, study areas and rooms for group discussions. A 216-seat auditorium below provides space for classes, lectures, film screenings and other events.

The freshly renovated Hotz Honors Hall, situated in the heart of the northwest housing area, provides housing for 400 first-year honors students in spaces designed to foster community. Hotz offers a large room for relaxation on the main floor, a computer lounge, music room, conference rooms and a small theater. Each floor is equipped with study areas, alcoves for TV viewing and video gaming, and spa-style bathrooms. The Honors College offers special programming for Hotz residents and upper-level honors students in nearby dorms.

Degrees Offered
Honors programs are offered in all disciplines, tailored to students’ academic interests, with interdisciplinary collaborations encouraged. The college or school of major confers honors degrees. Only Honors College students can earn the distinction of graduating cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude.

Other Programs
Honors College Grants
Each year the Honors College awards more than $1 million in study abroad and undergraduate research grants, which are available to honors students who submit competitive proposals and meet all other requirements. Honors College faculty and staff work closely with the Office of Study Abroad and International Exchange to help honors students find programs that best meet their academic and professional goals. Research grants support laboratory or other creative work and travel to an archive or conference. Deadlines and application instructions are available on the Honors College website at honorscollege.uark.edu.

Nationally Competitive Awards
The Honors College coordinates with the Office of Nationally Competitive Awards to provide assistance to all students who are applying for national and international graduate fellowships and scholarships (i.e. Marshall, Rhodes, Gates Cambridge, Rotary, Fulbright, and National Science Foundation). For more information, refer to the Enrollment Services section of this catalog.

Advanced Placement Summer Institute
The Honors College coordinates the annual Advanced Placement Summer Institute (APSI), a College Board-endorsed summer program. The institute provides training to high school and middle school teachers for AP certification in various subjects. Course listings and registration information are available at honorscollege.uark.edu/apsi.

College Admission Requirements
To apply for honors, students should visit the Honors College website at honorscollege.uark.edu and click on Apply. There they can review admission requirements and the honors program requirements in their college. Honors-eligible new freshmen should fill out the Honors College Application, available online. To register for honors classes in their first semester, they should apply before attending freshman orientation.

> New transfer students and current students should contact the honors program director or assistant director in their college to determine eligibility and, for some programs, which form of honors (four-year or departmental) would best meet their needs. Then they should fill out the Honors College Application form. The list of honors program directors and both honors application forms are available online at honorscollege.uark.edu.

The chart below contains basic requirements for each of the honors programs. For detailed information, see the individual honors program sections for each college or school in this catalog. Note that honors admission is based on the highest composite ACT or SAT score, not on superscores. In calculating GPA, extra weight is given only for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses.

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<tr>
<th>College or School</th>
<th>New Freshmen</th>
<th>Current Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.5 high school GPA</td>
<td>3.5 cumulative University of Arkansas GPA</td>
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<td>Fay Jones School of Architecture</td>
<td>Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.5 high school GPA</td>
<td>3.5 cumulative University of Arkansas GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Education and Health Professions</td>
<td>Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.5 high school GPA</td>
<td>3.5 cumulative University of Arkansas GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Engineering</td>
<td>Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.5 high school GPA</td>
<td>3.5 cumulative University of Arkansas GPA</td>
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**Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences**

- Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.5 high school GPA

**Walton College of Business**

- Minimum 28 ACT or 1310 SAT (redesigned exam) or 1240 SAT (pre-March 2016 exam) and 3.75 high school GPA

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**Fellowships and Scholarships**

The Honors College administers the most prestigious new freshman awards at the University of Arkansas. The Honors College, Sturgis and Bodenhamer Fellowships provide from $70,000 in support over a four-year period, are highly competitive and require an in-depth application process and interview. For more details, visit the Honors College website at honorscollege.uark.edu and click on Future Students.

The Academic Scholarship Office awards scholarships to a variety of students. Students do not have to be in the Honors College to receive these scholarships. For additional information, visit the Academic Scholarship Office website at scholarships.uark.edu and see the chapter on Financial Aid and Scholarships in this catalog.

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**Student Organizations**

All honors students are eligible to apply for the Honors College Ambassadors program. This group supports the honors community by participating in campus recruiting events and meeting with prospective students. The Honors College Student Advisory Council offers a select group of student leaders an opportunity to make a real impact on the Honors College. Honors College students in all disciplines also have the opportunity to share their research and study abroad experiences with Advanced Placement and honors classes in their hometown high school through the Celebrating Discovery program.

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**College Academic Regulations**

The college or school of major sets specific requirements for graduating with honors including a minimum of 12 honors credit hours and the completion of an undergraduate thesis. A combination of honors credit hours, thesis quality, and GPA requirements lead to Latin designation of **cum laude**, **magna cum laude** or **summa cum laude**. Registration for honors courses is restricted to honors students or other students who meet the honors criteria and who have been approved by the honors program offering the course. For more information, see the honors sections for the college or school major.

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**Honors College website** (http://honorscollege.uark.edu)

**Courses**

**HNRC 300VH. Honors College Forum (Irregular). 1-3 Hour.**

The Honors College Forum centers on contemporary issues sparking intense national and international media scrutiny. Faculty experts partner with honors students in a seminar-style, discussion format. Topics vary by semester. Pre- or Co requisite: Honors standing. Prerequisite: Departmental consent. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

**HNRC 301VH. Honors College Retro Readings (Irregular). 1-3 Hour.**

Honors College Retro Readings centers on classic authors read through a contemporary lens. Faculty experts partner with honors students from all undergraduate colleges in a seminar-style discussion format. Topics vary by semester. Pre- or Corequisite: Honors standing. Prerequisite: Departmental consent. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

**HNRC 4013H. Honors College Signature Seminar (Sp, Fa). 3 Hours.**

The Honors College Signature Seminar Series features leading scholars who will offer courses bridging multiple colleges and having broad appeal. These signature seminars will develop from the current research of the faculty who offer them, thereby inviting honors students into their scholarly world at a very high level. The goal of the signature seminar series is to spark undergraduate research projects and to stimulate career trajectories, including nationally competitive fellowships and/or admittance to graduate and professional programs. Topics vary by semester. Eligible students must be in good standing in the Honors College. Pre- or Corequisite: Honors standing. Prerequisite: Departmental consent. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

**HNRC 403VH. Honors College International Research (Irregular). 3-6 Hour.**

The Honors College International Research hours are intended for undergraduates who have already begun their research on campus and will travel abroad for a significant period of time to enhance and extend this research. An on-campus faculty mentor and a research mentor on-site are required. Prerequisite: Departmental consent. Pre or Corequisite: Honors standing.

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**Honors College Office**

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**Advanced Placement Summer Institute**

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