

Old Honors Program Curriculum

NOTE: This is being provided for informational purposes and for students who entered the Honors Program prior to Fall 2008.

Transcript and Diploma Designations

There is a difference in transcript and diploma designation between the Option One and Option Two curriculum track. On the transcript, the Option One track is designated "Highest University Honors" and the Option Two track is designated "High University Honors." Similarly, Option One track diplomas contain a Highest Honors emblem while Option Two track diplomas contain a High Honors emblem.

Honors Program Tracks

The Honors Program is proud to present two possible tracks for potential students, the Option One and Option Two track. These curriculum tracks were developed by an interdisciplinary committee with careful attention being given to core curriculum requirements that are a component of every degree program on campus. Because of this, the Honors Program is a viable option for all majors at ASU.

It does need to be stated that students do not have to be a member of the Honors Program in order to take an honors course. Students interested in just taking an honors course must contact the Honors Program director for permission to do this.

Honors Program Curriculum Option One (Please see below for Fall 2007 changes to this policy)*

A listing of the formal courses to be offered in the program is below. These requirements will result in a total of 30 credit hours taken by each Honors student. Most of the courses required in the program will be Honors sections of regularly offered courses. Typically during the last two years, students will receive Honors credit for two courses within their major discipline. These courses can be standard sections, with the Honors student being required to complete additional assignments not given to regular students. Alternatively, these major discipline courses may be special courses, such as individual research. Please make sure that you review the pre-existing credit policy below.

Course requirements (30 hours):
Introduction to Honors study (HONR 1202)

History 1301 (3 hours)

HONR 1302 (3 hours)

- Satisfies the ENG 1302 core curriculum requirement

Government 2301 (3 hours)

HONR 2301 (Great Books I)

- Satisfies sophomore literature or humanities core curriculum requirement

HONR 2302 (Great Books II)

- Satisfies visual and performing arts core curriculum requirement (Art, Drama, Music)

Lab science course (4 hours): CHEM 1411, CHEM 1412, BIO 1480

Please read the explanation of our lab science requirement below.

Introduction to Honors research (2 hours) (HONR 3281)

Honors seminar (1 hour) (HONR 4181)

- This class will generally only be open to Honors Program students during their senior year

Departmental/major discipline courses (6 hours)

In future years of the program, class substitutions will be possible for transfer students or existing students who enter the program after their freshman year. These substitutions will be made on an individual basis, and will take into account whether the student meets existing requirements for students entering the program. Students will still have to complete 15 hours in residence.

Students may also substitute three of the six departmental/major discipline hours with International Study experience.

IMPORTANT: Please review the change to this policy for Fall 2007 below.*

Honors Program Curriculum Option Two

The Option Two track is intended to allow qualified students to still participate in the Honors Program while avoiding the penalty of having to repeat several courses that they have regular credit for. As a result of participating in the Option Two track, students will receive 50% less scholarship money from the Honors Program. Students in the Option Two track will receive a different designation on their transcript as well (see above).

Eligibility for the Option Two track

(Please see below for Fall 2007 changes to this policy)*

Entering freshman that already have nine or more hours of pre-existing credit in required honors courses and can only satisfy those requirements through repeating those courses are eligible. For Option Two track students, credit for these courses must be received prior to the summer in which a student is accepted into the Honors Program (e.g., prior to Summer 2004 for Fall 2004 entry). The pre-existing credit policy for the Honors Program may also be found below.

IMPORTANT: Please review the change to this policy for Fall 2007 below.*

***Effective Fall 2007**

Starting with the Fall 2007 academic year, approximately 25% of entering students will be allowed to request Option Two status regardless of whether they already have nine or more hours of pre-existing credit in required honors courses.

Additionally, Option One students will be allowed to substitute one of our additional honors courses that is not part of the original Option One curriculum for a course in the Honors Program curriculum that they have pre-existing credit for according to our pre-existing credit policy. They may also substitute three of the six departmental/major discipline hours with International Study experience.

Course requirements (15 hours):

Introduction to Honors study (HONR 1202)

Introduction to Honors research (2 hours) (HONR 3281)

Honors seminar (1 hour) (HONR 4181)

- This class will generally be open to Honors Program students during their senior year

Departmental/major discipline courses (3 hours)

The remaining 7 hours must be comprised of courses taken outside of your college. These hours may include the following courses: HONR 2301, HONR 2302, HIST 1301, GOVT 2301, HONR 1302 or Honors sections of an Honors Lab Science Course (CHEM 1411, CHEM 1412, or BIO 1480). Please read the explanation of our lab science requirement below. It is also possible to fulfill these specific hours by taking a course by contract; this requires approval of the instructor and the Honors Program director.

Pre-existing Credit Policy

Credit for any of these courses must be received prior to being accepted into the Honors Program. Option Two track students must receive credit prior to the summer in which they were accepted into the Honors Program (e.g., prior to Summer 2008 for Fall 2008 entry). Please review changes to the curriculum tracks for Fall 2007.

HONR 1202, HONR 3281, HONR 4181

All students must take these courses irrespective of whether they have had similar courses in another Honors Program.

HONR 1302

Students who have pre-existing credit for ENG 1302 will still be required to take HONR 1302.

HONR 2301, Great Books One (3 hours)

Honors Directors view this course and HONR 2302 as the pinnacle of Honors study. Students in the Honors Program are therefore required to take HONR 2301 even if they have credit for a sophomore literature course (which HONR 2301 would satisfy the requirement for).

Additionally, most students in the College of Liberal and Fine Arts (CLFA) may still take HONR 2301 to satisfy the humanities requirement in their major.

HONR 2302, Great Books Two (3 hours)

Students who have credit for a performing arts course will be required to take HONR 2302 since a suitable course substitution for an Honors performing arts course is not available.

GOVT 2301/HIST 1301

Students who have credit in either of these courses will still be required to take an Honors course in these disciplines, most likely by contract. Credit for these courses must be received prior to the summer of the year in which they matriculate into Angelo State University.

HONORS LAB SCIENCE COURSE

Students must take a 4-hour lab science course for Honors credit. The four possible courses are BIO 1480, CHEM 1411, CHEM 1412 and GEO 1402 (by contract). It is not anticipated that incoming freshman students would have the 8 hours of pre-existing credit needed to satisfy the core curriculum requirement for any undergraduate degree received in Texas.

Please read the explanation of our lab science requirement below.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

In order for transfer students to receive an Honors designation on their transcript, they must satisfy the entry requirements for Honors transfer students and complete at least 15 hours of Honors credit at Angelo State University.

Lab Science Course Explanation

Our thought behind the lab science requirement, as with the other course requirements in the Honors Program, is that it helps assure us that students in the Honors Program are well-rounded students. Currently, we require our students to take one four-hour lab science course. Honors Program students will take what is essentially a majors and minors course in either chemistry (CHEM 1411 or CHEM 1412) or biology (BIO 1480). The thought behind this class requirement is that this is definitely an honors experience for our Honors Program students.

Most non-science students would normally take one of the non-science major laboratory classes that are typically very large classes filled with various types of students. Rather than place additional strain on the professors that teach these courses by asking them to develop an additional honors section of these courses, we decided that Honors Program students would just take a majors and minors section of the previously mentioned courses (CHEM 1411, CHEM 1412 or BIO 1480). The professors who teach the sections of these courses are educational leaders in their department and therefore students are exposed to an excellent educational experience. Some students have interpreted this as us just choosing to make them take a more difficult course. This choice, however, was based on two important issues: our desire to provide an honors-quality education in a laboratory science course and the needs of the departments that are involved.

Honors Program biology students that take BIO 1480 will be required to do an enriched assignment during the course since this is a class that they would normally take as a biology major. Students receive a different experience in both the lecture and lab section of the honors CHEM 1411 and CHEM 1412 courses so no additional requirements are placed on chemistry or biochemistry majors who take these courses. This assures us that all students that take an Honors Program laboratory course will actually receive an honors experience.

Finally, since these lab science courses are freshman courses, we cannot guarantee that they will be as small as our other Honors Program courses. Departmental needs, number of faculty concurrently teaching regular sections of these courses and the unpredictable nature of freshman enrollment places a severe limitation on our ability to forecast class sizes for these three honors courses.