

## Wingate's Honors Program Requirements

The following are requirements for all five honors tracks (traditional, biology, chemistry, business, and nursing):

### □ Honors 220 Seminar

This is a one-hour seminar that meets 50 minutes a week. The seminar topic and professor change each semester. Students only need to take the Honors 220 seminar once before graduating. It's a pass/fail class. Why pass/fail? To support students' love of learning for learning's sake; to build community; and to offer interesting topics with different faculty leading seminars.

### □ Honors Research

Honors research is completed by all honors students as a **capstone experience**, but the research requirements are different depending on a student's track. **Why?** Faculty in different programs develop student research experiences and projects for their specific disciplines. For the biology and chemistry tracks, for instance, lab time is a substantial part of the students' research. Business track students take two smaller classes (3 hours total) to explore business research and writing. Nursing students often build research projects based on their clinical experiences. For traditional track students, students may build off of a paper or study that they completed for their major. Traditional track students also sometimes explore a new research question. **Can students start research in their junior year instead of senior year?** Yes, speak with your faculty advisor and the Honors Program Director.

### □ Wellspring Symposium Presentation

Students present their honors research at the Wellspring Symposium. Students choose to present an oral or poster presentation. It's a Lyceum event, and there are awards!

## Traditional Track Requirements

### □ Honors 220 Seminar (1 hr)

Take one Honors 220 seminar before you graduate.

### □ Five 3-credit Honors Courses (15 hrs)

**Take five honors classes from the following options:**

- Traditional track students often complete their honors course requirements by taking honors sections of Global Perspectives classes. Honors GPS classes are offered every semester. Look for the HON section on Winlink. GPS 210, GPS 220, GPS 310, and GPS 320 all have honors sections.
- Honors Special Topic Classes: Students may also take Honors 205 (Ideas in Fine Arts), Honors 300 (The Making of the Modern Mind), or Honors 315 (Special Topics). Honors 300 is offered every odd spring. Honors 205 is offered every even fall. A special topics class is offered each year. Topics vary: Honors 315 and other special topic classes have focused on nonprofit management, ecotheology, mathematical masterpieces, and religion and gender.
- On occasion, a traditional track student may complete an in-course honors project in one of their major or minor classes (300 or 400-level) to receive honors credit. This must be approved by the director and faculty member.

### □ Honors 451 (1 hr)

This is a one-hour independent research project. Students often build on a paper, study, or project that they completed in another class. Some students write about a new research question that they would like to explore. Each Honors 451 project has a project director and two faculty readers. The Honors Program Director sends out information about Honors 451 each semester. Students present their Honors 451 research project at the Wellspring Symposium.

## Biology Track Requirements

### ☐ Honors 220 Seminar (1 hr)

Take one Honors 220 seminar before you graduate.

### ☐ Three 3-credit Honors Courses (9 hrs)

Take three honors classes from the following options:

- Biology track students often complete some of their honors course requirements by taking one to three honors sections of Global Perspectives classes. Honors GPS classes are offered every semester. Look for the HON section on Winlink. GPS 210, GPS 220, GPS 310, and GPS 320 all have honors sections.
- Biology track students usually complete an in-course honors project in one to two of their biology classes that include a lab (300 or 400-level) to receive honors credit. This is approved by the director and faculty member.
- Honors Special Topic Classes: Students may also take Honors 205 (Ideas in Fine Arts), Honors 300 (The Making of the Modern Mind), or Honors 315 (Special Topics). Honors 300 is offered every odd spring. Honors 205 is offered every even fall. A special topics class is offered each year. Topics vary: Honors 315 and other special topic classes have focused on nonprofit management, ecotheology, mathematical masterpieces, and religion and gender.

### ☐ Two semesters of BIO 443 (6 hrs total)

This is a two-semester sequence research project that is usually completed in a student's senior year but can be started (and possibly completed) in their junior year. Students seek out a biology research mentor in the previous semester. Students typically take 3 hours of BIO 443 in the fall and 3 hours of BIO 443 in the spring. Students present their BIO 443 research project at the Wellspring Symposium.

## Chemistry Track Requirements

### ☐ Honors 220 Seminar (1 hr)

Take one Honors 220 seminar before you graduate.

### ☐ Three 3-credit Honors Courses (9 hrs)

Take three honors classes from the following options:

- Chemistry track students often complete their honors course requirements by taking honors sections of Global Perspectives classes. Honors GPS classes are offered every semester. Look for the HON section on Winlink. GPS 210, GPS 220, GPS 310, and GPS 320 all have honors sections.
- Honors Special Topic Classes: Students may also take Honors 205 (Ideas in Fine Arts), Honors 300 (The Making of the Modern Mind), or Honors 315 (Special Topics). Honors 300 is offered every odd spring. Honors 205 is offered every even fall. A special topics class is offered each year. Topics vary: Honors 315 and other special topic classes have focused on nonprofit management, ecotheology, mathematical masterpieces, and religion and gender.

### ☐ CHEM 491 and CHEM 492 (6 hrs total)

This is a two-semester sequence research project that is usually completed in a student's senior year but can be completed in their junior year. Students typically take CHEM 491 in the fall and CHEM 492 in the spring. Students present their CHEM 491/492 research project at the Wellspring Symposium. Students also write a publication style paper on their research that is reviewed by two chemistry faculty members and present their research at a national or regional meeting such as SERMACS or NCUR.

## Business Track Requirements

### □ Honors 220 Seminar (1 hr)

Take one Honors 220 seminar before you graduate.

### □ Two 3-credit Honors Courses (6 hrs)

Take two honors classes from the following options:

- Business track students often complete their honors course requirements by taking two honors sections of Global Perspectives classes. Honors GPS classes are offered every semester. Look for the HON section on Winlink. GPS 210, GPS 220, GPS 310, and GPS 320 all have honors sections.
- Honors Special Topic Classes: Students may also take Honors 205 (Ideas in Fine Arts), Honors 300 (The Making of the Modern Mind), or Honors 315 (Special Topics). Honors 300 is offered every odd spring. Honors 205 is offered every even fall. A special topics class is offered each year. Topics vary: Honors 315 and other special topic classes have focused on nonprofit management, ecotheology, mathematical masterpieces, and religion and gender.

### □ Two 3-credit Business Honors Electives (6 hrs)

Take Honors 315 (nonprofit management) and complete an in-course honors project in one business class **or** complete in-course honors in two 300 to 400-level business classes.

### □ BUS 490 and BUS 491 (3 hrs total)

This is a two-semester sequence research project that is usually completed in a student's senior year but can be completed in their junior year. Students typically take BUS 490 (2 credits) in the fall and BUS 491 (1 credit) in the spring. Students present their BUS 490/491 research project at the Wellspring Symposium.

## Nursing Track Requirements

### □ Honors 220 Seminar (1 hr)

Take one Honors 220 seminar before you graduate.

### □ Three 3-credit Honors Courses (9 hrs)

Take three honors classes from the following list:

- Nursing track students often complete some of their honors course requirements by taking one to two honors sections of Global Perspectives classes. Honors GPS classes are offered every semester. Look for the HON section on Winlink. GPS 210, GPS 220, GPS 310, and GPS 320 all have honors sections.
- Honors Special Topic Classes: Students may also take Honors 205 (Ideas in Fine Arts), Honors 300 (The Making of the Modern Mind), Honors 315 (Special Topic) or another honors elective. However, nursing students do not often take these special topic classes because of their clinical hours and other important scheduling issues.
- **In-course honors in NURS 325 is required.**
- Nursing track students may complete an in-course honors project in another nursing class (NURS 312; 300 or 400-level) to receive honors credit. This is approved by the director and faculty member.

### □ Two semesters of NURS 499 (6 hrs total)

This is a two-semester sequence research project that is usually completed in a student's senior year with the nursing department chair's guidance. Students typically take 3 hours of NURS 499 in the fall and 3 hours of NURS 499 in the spring. Students present their NURS 499 research project at the Wellspring Symposium.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### ◇ Do I need to maintain a certain GPA?

Honors students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or above to graduate with University Honors. See the program director if you have concerns or extenuating circumstances.

### ◇ Are there grade requirements for honors credit?

- For Honors Classes, a student who receives a C in an honors section of a course will have provisional standing in the Honors Program. More than one C in an honors course will result in the student being ineligible to complete the Honors Program requirements. The student will still receive credit for the honors section of the class on their transcript but will not be eligible to graduate with University Honors. A student with provisional standing must meet with the Honors Program Director.
- A student must earn at least a B in a course in order to be eligible to receive in-course honors credit. The student will still receive credit for the class if the grade is lower than a B but will not receive honors credit.
- Grading procedures for capstone requirements vary depending on the track, but students should earn a B or higher on their project to graduate with University Honors.

### ◇ How will my honors work be acknowledged?

Students who successfully complete the University Honors program will receive the designation “University Honors” on their transcripts and diplomas, will be recognized at Commencement, and will wear a white cord. In addition, each honors course will carry the designation “HON” on transcripts and grade reports regardless of whether or not a student completes the entire program.

### ◇ What is in-course honors work?

In-course honors work and options vary depending on which honors track a student is completing. In-course honors work is designed for one or two of a student’s 300 or 400-level classes that they take for their major (ex: BIO 380, NURS 325, FIN 350). Students typically read additional material and write a paper, conduct more lab research, make a class presentation and lead discussion, or extensively help facilitate class to receive honors credit in a regular class.

The program director sends out a form at the beginning of the semester that must be completed within the first few weeks of school by the student after they discuss the in-course honors options with the faculty member who teaches the course.

Traditional and chemistry track students often do not need to complete in-course honors. However, an exception can be made for students who start the program late, have scheduling conflicts due to their major, are double majoring, or have another compelling reason as to why they cannot take an honors class to complete requirements.

### ◇ Where is the Honors Lounge?

The University Honors Lounge is in the Burris Hall basement. It has two cozy couches, a mini fridge, a microwave, a small table, and a printer. Please print responsibly. Your ID card swipe is required for entry. Email Mrs. Ashley Hawkins if you have problems accessing the lounge.

### ◇ How can I reach Dr. Kellar?

Email [a.kellar@wingate.edu](mailto:a.kellar@wingate.edu). We can meet via Zoom if you like.