

2 08-12

3 April 9, 2008
45 **University Honors Program**6 (This policy supersedes Policy Statement 82-09 and 00-08)
78 This revised policy was recommended by the Academic Senate on March 27, 2008
9 and approved by the President on April 8, 2008.
1011
12 The University Honors Program exists to meet the needs of high-performing students who want an enriched
13 undergraduate program. It offers three options.
1415 General Honors Plan I (minimum of 24 units) is designed for entering freshmen and consists of a minimum of 18
16 units of lower- and upper-division honors courses (which must include UHP 100 and 150) and a culminating 6-
17 unit active learning project requiring a reflective component in the student's major (UHP 496 and UHP 498).
18 Active learning project options include: performance, exhibition, study abroad, community-based learning,
19 research/creative project (thesis), or internship.20 General Honors Plan II (minimum of 15 units) is designed for upper-division transfers from community colleges
21 and consists of nine units of upper-division honors courses and a culminating 6- unit active learning project
22 requiring a reflective component in the student's major (UHP 496 and UHP 498). Active learning project
23 options include: performance, exhibition, study abroad, community-based learning, research/creative project
24 (thesis), or internship.25 Honors in the Major (minimum of 9 units) consists of a minimum of one upper-division honors-specific course in
26 the student's major department and a culminating 6-unit active learning project (courses in the major
27 department equivalent to UHP 496 and UHP 498). Students in General Honors whose major department offers
28 an Honors in the Major Program may apply to participate in both programs, in which case the General Honors
29 active learning project would be satisfied through the Honors in the Major option.30 Admission. Admission to the University Honors Program is based upon high school grade-point average, SAT or ACT
31 scores, community college or CSULB grades, and faculty recommendations, as appropriate. Admission standards are
32 designed to restrict participation in the program to the top 10 percent of CSULB students. Students who fail to maintain
33 a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 will be withdrawn from the program. Also, students who fail to register for courses in
34 the General Honors Program for two consecutive semesters will be withdrawn from the program.
3536 Approval of Courses. The identification and staffing of courses to be offered as a part of General Education for students
37 taking General Honors are decisions made by the director of the University Honors Program, following consultation with
38 the Honors Advisory Council. Proposals for Honors in the Major and the creation of honors-specific courses other than
39 UHP must be approved by (1) the department curriculum committee and department chair; (2) the college curriculum
40 committee; and (3) the director of the University Honors Program, following consultation with the Honors Advisory
41 Council. The management and staffing of the senior Active Learning Project must be approved by the department
42 curriculum committee and department chair of the student's major, as well as by the director of the University Honors
43 Program.
4445 Definition of Honors Courses. Honors courses are different from most undergraduate offerings both in content and in the
46 way they are taught. Honors courses are designed to be more demanding; they include a heavier emphasis on theory
47 and/or address more complex issues. The assigned readings are normally scholarly works, both books and articles,
48 rather than textbooks. Class time is devoted to discussions designed to give students the opportunity for independent
49 interpretation and analysis. The emphasis is on written papers or projects, not standardized testing. Assignments are
50 constructed to accommodate individual student interests and concerns. In short, the presumption is that students in the
51 University Honors Program are able to embark on more challenging and creative assignments, are less dependent

52 upon the assistance of their instructors in understanding assigned readings, and are motivated to function at a more
53 advanced stage of critical analysis when considering the validity of a given work.
54

55 Definition of Senior/Active Learning Project. The senior project/portfolio is intended to provide the opportunity for personal
56 intellectual growth. It can take the form of an original research or creative effort or it can incorporate study abroad,
57 community-based learning, or an internship component. It can also be a project that is demonstrated, performed, or
58 exhibited. Accordingly, the form that the research/preparation (UHP 496) and
59 writing/demonstration/performance/exhibition (UHP 498) may take will vary with the student's major. The end product
60 will be either a scholarly paper, a performance, or an exhibition. A performance or an exhibition must be accompanied
61 by a reflective written component. The director of the University Honors Program will determine the appropriate format
62 for the senior active learning project in consultation with the faculty member supervising the student's work.
63

64 Advisory Council. The University Honors Program shall have an Advisory Council composed of the director (ex officio,
65 non-voting); a designee of the provost (ex officio, non-voting); eight members of the faculty, two from the College of
66 Liberal Arts and one from each of the other colleges, selected by the respective college councils, preferably from
67 among faculty who have taught in the program or supervised senior active learning projects; and two students, one
68 seeking General Honors and one seeking Honors in the Major, selected by the faculty members of the Advisory
69 Council. Terms shall be for two years in the case of faculty and one year in the case of students, and members shall be
70 eligible for re-appointment. The Advisory Council shall conduct a minimum of one meeting each semester.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2008