



WEATHERFORD COLLEGE
HONORS
PROGRAM

Honors Student Handbook 2021-2022



The mission of the Weatherford College Honors Program is to foster the intellectual, creative, and personal growth of innovative and curious students by offering an advanced curriculum based on inquiry and research and dedicated to lifelong learning and leadership.

1. Honors Admission Requirements

Honors Program Eligibility Requirements:

- Acceptance to Weatherford College
- Official completed high school transcript submitted to student services
- 3.33 GPA (high school or college)
- TSI Complete
- Full time student (enrolled in 12+ hours)

Since motivation and persistence are significant factors in determining academic success, interested students who fall slightly short of the GPA requirement may still apply and may be admitted at the discretion of the honors program committee.

a. Admission Process

- Apply to Weatherford College via ApplyTexas
- Apply to the WC Honors Program via application on website
- The Honors committee will either: deny your application and give feedback, invite you to interview, or accept your application, via WC e-mail
- In some cases, the honors committee will contact you directly for an interview. After conducting the interview, you will be notified via WC e-mail regarding acceptance status

2. Retention in Honors Program

If admitted to the Honors Program, you will be expected to:

- Maintain a 3.33 GPA
- Complete at least 1 Honors Course (or Honors Contract) each semester
- Participate in the Honors Seminar Course
- Attend honors program events
- Complete 5-10 community service hours

3. Honors Coursework

a. Honors Courses

Honors courses are intended to provide a deeper and more engaging academic experience for students. Each Honors course will be different. In some Honors classes, you may complete additional assignments or cover more advanced concepts than usually taught in that class. Some Honors classes may put more emphasis on student research or on seminar-style discussion. But in every case, expectations will be high. You'll be expected to attend regularly and to engage with the course in ways that other classes may not require. By applying to the Honors Program, you're signaling your willingness to be held to that higher expectation.

b. Honors Seminar

In the first semester of the Honors Program, you'll be expected to participate in a weekly Honors seminar, which will introduce you to the Program and to other Honors students. The seminar will also serve as a bridge between your Honors Courses and the Capstone Project you'll complete in your last semester. The Honors Seminar is a non-credit course but is nevertheless required for all admitted students.

c. Registering for Honors Courses

Honors courses are limited to students admitted to the Honors Program. For that reason, you'll work with a designated Honors advisor to register for those classes. Honors students will register for Honors classes before the regular registration period begins for other classes, and the Honors advisor can help you build the rest of your schedule as well.

d. Honors Contracts

In some cases, you may be interested in completing honors-level work in a class which is not offered through the Honors Program. In these cases, an Honors Contract may be used. An Honors Contract is an agreement between an Honors student and a professor in a non-Honors course, outlining additional work or expectations that the student could complete in order to gain an Honors designation for the course. **Honors Contracts are only offered for the courses listed in section 3e (Curriculum) below.** To establish an Honors Contract, you should approach the instructor of the class **no later than the first week of the semester** (before the semester begins is even better). If the professor is willing to offer an Honors Contract, then you and the professor in question will work together to understand the expectations and requirements for the contract. NOTE: professors are not required to offer Honors Contracts, and all requirements are at the discretion of the professor. The contract will need to be approved by Honors program coordinator and the Honors Committee. The coordinator and committee can approve the contract, ask for changes or additional information, or deny it all together. Honors students are only allowed to attempt (1) Honors Contract each semester.

Honors program students must have taken at least one honors course before they can attempt an honors contract, unless previously authorized by the program coordinator.

To get Honors credit, you'll need to successfully complete the terms of the Contract and get at least a B for your overall course grade.

e. Curriculum

Honors students are expected to complete at least 12 credit-hours in Honors courses or contracts. Because the Honors Program is meant to be interdisciplinary and to introduce students to advanced work in a variety of disciplines, you'll need to complete at least one course or contract from **each** of the following groups:

Group A	Group B	Group C
MATH 1314	ENGL 1301	HIST 1301
MATH 1316	ENGL 1302	HIST 1302
MATH 1324	ENGL 2311	HIST 2311
MATH 1325	ENGL 2321	HIST 2312
MATH 1332	ENGL 2322	GOVT 2305
MATH 1342	ENGL 2323	GOVT 2306
MATH 2413	ENGL 2326	ANTH 2351
BIOL 1406	ENGL 2327	ECON 1301
BIOL 1407	ENGL 2328	ECON 2301
BIOL 1408	ENGL 2331	ECON 2302
BIOL 1409	ENGL 2332	PSYC 2301
BIOL 1411	ENGL 2333	PSYC 2314
BIOL 1413	ENGL 2341	SOCI 1301
BIOL 2401	SPAN 2311	SOCW 2361
BIOL 2402	SPAN 2312	PHIL 1301
BIOL 2406	ARTS 1301	PHIL 2306
BIOL 2420	ARTS 1303	PHIL 2321
CHEM 1411	ARTS 1304	
CHEM 1412	DRAM 1310	
GEOL 1403	HUMA 1315	
GEOL 1404	MUSI 1306	
GEOL 1447	MUSI 1307	
PHYS 1401	MUSI 1301	
PHYS 1402		
PHYS 1403		
PHYS 1404		
PHYS 1415		
PHYS 1417		
PHYS 2425		
PHYS 2426		

NOTE: Not all classes on this list are offered every semester.

f. Course Recognition

Students who complete an Honors-designated course with a grade of C or better OR complete an Honors Contract with a B or better will have an honors designation for that course on their transcript.

g. Capstone Project

Engaging with ideas through research is a major component of the mission of the Honors Program, and for that reason, one of the requirements of being an Honors Student is the completion of an independent research project. By the start of the last semester before you graduate (at the latest), you'll need to propose your Capstone Project to the Honors Coordinator. The project can be the outgrowth of an assignment you completed in an Honors course, or it can represent a new idea altogether. You'll work out the specific details of the project with the Coordinator, but every Capstone Project will represent a significant investment of time and original research. The finished product may be a paper, a multimedia presentation, or even a performance (in some cases).

4. Graduation with Honors**a. Honors Graduate Designation Criteria**

To be designated as an Honors Graduate, you must:

- Complete at least 12 credit hours of Honors course or contracts (minimum of 1 course/contract each semester)
- Complete the honors seminar course
- Complete at least 5 hours of approved community service
- Complete an Honors Capstone project
- Maintain a 3.33 GPA
- Fulfill all other Weatherford College requirements for graduation

b. Distinguished Honors Graduate Designation Criteria

To be designated as a Distinguished Honors Graduate, you must:

- Complete at least 24 credit hours of Honors course or contracts (minimum of 2 courses/contract each semester)
- Complete the honors seminar course
- Complete at least 10 hours of approved community service
- Complete an Honors Capstone project
- Maintain a 3.33 GPA
- Fulfill all other Weatherford College requirements for graduation

