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.
### 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:

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**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
5. Benefits
   a. Scholarships
      The Weatherford College Foundation offers a few scholarships specifically for students accepted to the Honors Program. Most Honors scholarships are based on financial need, but some are strictly merit-based. The application for Weatherford College scholarships can be found at www.wc.edu/scholarships.

6. Contacts
   Honors Program Coordinator
   Michelle Burt mburt@wc.edu 817-598-8825
   Honors Program Advisor
   Shantee Siebuhr ssiebuhr@wc.edu 817-598-6444
   Honors Program Committee
   Dr. William Smith wsmith@wc.edu
   Staci Tyler styler@wc.edu
   Dr. Nick Pugh npugh@wc.edu
   Shelley Hampe shampe@wc.edu
   Shirley Brown, Ex Officio smbrown@wc.edu

7. Institutional Information
   a. Weatherford College Student Handbook
      Visit the full Weatherford College student handbook here. (https://live-weatherford-handbook.pantheonsite.io/)
   b. FERPA
      For more information on FERPA, visit the Weatherford College student handbook here. (https://live-weatherford-handbook.pantheonsite.io/ferpa)
   c. Equal Opportunity
      Weatherford College is an equal opportunity Institution that provides educational and employment opportunities on the basis of merit and without discrimination because of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation or gender identity.

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