

Honors Tracks

Students can choose from four honors tracks depending on their discipline of interest and career aspirations.

Rafael & Carmen Guerra Honors Program (Basic Honors Curricula)

This track is suitable for many majors and career aspirations, including students who are pre-med. In this track, students may decide to take the Honors Humanities sequences (HONR 2387 and HONR 2388), if these courses speak to their interests.

- 9 credits of lower-division honors courses - Choose from Honors Humanities sequence (HONR 2387 Honors Humanities I; HONR 2388 Honors Humanities II) and/or honors-by-contract (HBC) for lower-division courses.
- 3 credits of honors practicum (HONR 3380) – A required departmental internship or experiential-learning activity may be substituted with the addition of an honors component.
- 9 credits of upper-division honors courses – Typically these will be upper-division courses within the student's major taken as honors-by-contract (HBC), although one honors study abroad summer course may also count.

Total = 21 credits

- Students also have the option of doing an honors thesis, which includes a total of 4 credits (HONR 3187 for 1 credit and HONR 4387 for 3 credits). A required departmental capstone experience may be substituted with the addition of an honors component.
- Students who are core-complete or nearly so when admitted to the Honors College may substitute upper-division honors-by-contract (HBC) courses for required lower-division honors credits.

Early Assurance Health Programs (Vaquero MD and PACT)

Requires admission to the Vaquero MD and Physician Assistant Career Track program

This track requires students to take two courses in Medical Humanities—an interdisciplinary field that examines the relationship between health and medicine through the lens of the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Students in this track are encouraged to pursue a minor in Medical Humanities. It is also an appropriate track for many students who aspire to the medical and health professions. BIOL 4000 is no longer offered as of Fall 2024 and hence the requirements of MEDH 2311/4301; BIOL 4000 will be accepted for students who previously received credit.

- 9 credits of lower-division honors courses – MEDH 2311 as HBC or MEDH 2311-Honors section and two other HBCs for lower-division courses. The Honors Humanities sequence (HONR 2387; HONR 2388) are suggested for lower-division honors courses.
- 3 credits of honors practicum (HONR 3380) – A required internship, service-learning activity, or shadowing may be substituted with the addition of an honors component.
- 9 credits of upper-division honors courses – MEDH 4301 as HBC or MEDH 4301-Honors section and two upper-division HBCs.

Total = 21 credits

- Students are strongly encouraged to do an honors thesis, which includes a total of 4 credits (HONR 3187 for 1 credit and HONR 4387 for 3 credits).
- Students are also strongly encouraged to pursue the *Minor in Medical Humanities*. Both MEDH 2311 and MEDH 4301 are included in the minor.

BMED Honors Track

This track is specifically for students pursuing a degree in the Biomedical Sciences. Students will be provided mentorship and guidance to ensure they simultaneously satisfy both BMED and Honors College requirements.

- 9 credits of lower-division honors courses
 - Recommended to take Honors-by-Contract (HBC) lower-division BMED courses (see list of courses on the Honors College website), or
 - Humanities sequence (HONR 2387 Honors Humanities I; HONR 2388 Honors Humanities II)
- 3 credits of honors practicum (HONR 3380) – A required internship, service-learning activity, or shadowing may be substituted with the addition of an honors component. *Student must seek explicit permission from the Dept Chair of the Health and Biomedical Sciences and the Dean of the Honors College.*
- 9 credits of upper-division courses consisting of BMED 4XXX.

Total = 21 credits

- Students are strongly encouraged to do an honors thesis, which includes a total of 4 credits (HONR 3187 for 1 credit and HONR 4387 for 3 credits).
 - HONR 3187 may be substituted with BMED 3121-3124.
- Students are also strongly encouraged to pursue the *minor in Medical Humanities*. Both MEDH 2311 and MEDH 4301 are included in the minor.

Pre-Law Honors Track

Students in this track are required to take at least two upper-division courses from the Legal Studies minor for honors credit and are encouraged to pursue a minor in Legal Studies. Legal studies expand students' knowledge of the law while helping students develop skills in legal reasoning and writing. This interdisciplinary field combines academic disciplines such as political science, anthropology, English, history, and philosophy.

- 9 credits of lower-division honors courses – Choose from Honors Humanities sequence (HONR 2387 Honors Humanities I; HONR 2388 Honors Humanities II) and/or honors-by-contract (HBC) for lower-division courses.
- 3 credits of honors practicum (HONR 3380) – The Political Science or Criminal Justice internship courses may be substituted with the addition of an honors component.
- 9 credits of upper-division honors courses – At least two upper-division courses from the Minor in Legal Studies must be taken as honors-by-contract (HBC).

Total = 21 credits

- Students on the Pre-Law honors track are also strongly encouraged to do an Honors thesis, which includes a total of 4 credits (HONR 3187 for 1 credit and HONR 4387 for 3 credits).
- Students in the Pre-Law Honors Program are also strongly encouraged to pursue the Minor in Legal Studies.

For all Tracks: Students who are Core Complete

Students who are core-complete or nearly so when admitted to the Honors College may substitute upper-division honors-by-contract (HBC) courses for required lower-division honors credits.