Covering all four undergraduate years, the University Honors Program (including the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Public Service, the School of Business and Administration, the School of Nursing, the School of Health Sciences, and Parks College of Engineering) provides special opportunities and challenges for able students, creating and intensifying intellectual and cultural interest early in the college years.

Acceptance into the program is determined by previous academic performance, achievement in college entrance examinations, and evidence of interest in the program as explained in the Honors Program brochure. Transfer students or students who demonstrate academic ability and/or develop an interest in the Honors Program during the freshman year may also be admitted.

A student must maintain a 3.5 minimum grade point average to remain in good standing in the Program. Student progress is reviewed by the Program Director every semester and continuance in the Program is either recommended or discouraged.

The program requires a minimum of twenty-four hours of course work, beginning with the Freshman Honors seminar, “Crossroads: An Introduction to Honors,” a cross-disciplinary, team-taught course that focuses on a different topic each semester. Freshmen and sophomores then choose lower level courses to fulfill both honors and the core requirements. Students must then complete at least four upper-level courses or tutorials, including at least one upper-level Honors seminar and the Senior Honors Thesis. Honors courses may not be taken on a Pass/No Pass option.

Courses in an honors student’s major are planned in conference with the primary advisor and faculty mentor. Students who successfully complete the curriculum requirements and have a minimum GPA of 3.5 receive an Honors baccalaureate degree. In addition, students may qualify to graduate cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude based on GPA. These Latin designations are separate and not related to the Honors Program.

For further information, contact the Honors Program Office in Notre Dame Hall 107.