The University Honors Program

The University Honors Program provides a small college atmosphere in the context of a large comprehensive university. Serving students on both the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses, the program is designed to foster the development of a critical sense of inquiry, a spirit of creativity, a global perspective, and an ethic of civic responsibility. A hallmark of the program is the emphasis on bringing ideas to life through undergraduate research, experiential learning, and service-learning opportunities. Honors students have the opportunity to enroll in honors sections of courses which are smaller and more dynamic than the typical class. During the junior and senior years, students develop an honors thesis or capstone project to further deepen their knowledge of their major field. In addition, honors students apply themselves outside of the classroom in at least one experiential learning project each year. Honors courses involve innovative approaches and pedagogies and are open to talented non-honors students where space is available.

Admission to the University Honors Program is competitive. Students may apply to the program as incoming freshmen, incoming transfer students, and as current Georgia Southern students. Full details about the University Honors Program, its requirements, and the application process are found at the website: http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/honors or call the Statesboro Campus Honors office at (912) 478-7926 or the Armstrong Campus Honors office at (912) 344-3242.

Below are the requirements expected of honors students, whether they enter as traditional first-year students or join the program as a current student or transfer student.

Traditional First-Year Students

Traditional first-year students entering the program with fewer than 15 credit hours of earned college credit have the following requirements:

1. FYE: Honors FYE 1220, Honors First-Year Seminar (fall)
2. Core: Four Honors Core Courses 1
3. Experiential Learning: One Experiential Learning Activity per year (four total)
4. College Departmental Honors: Completion of College and/or Departmental Honors Courses
5. Honors Thesis: includes proposal submitted one year before graduation and presentation at the Honors Research Symposium prior to graduation

Incoming first-year students with 15 or more credit hours have the following requirements:

• Students entering with 15-29 hours need three honors core courses.
• Students entering with 30-44 hours need two honors core courses.
• Students entering with 45-59 hours need one honors core course.
• Students entering with 60+ hours are not required to take honors core courses.

The number of credits earned will be determined based on the calculation of hours earned prior to matriculation at Georgia Southern as they appear in a student’s DegreeWorks audit.

Current and Transfer Students

Currently enrolled Georgia Southern students and transfer students who join the program will have the following requirements based on their credit hours:

1. FYE: Students who join the program as current or transfer students do not have to take Honors FYE 1220.
2. Core: Students entering with 15-29 hours need three honors core courses; Students entering with 30-44 hours need two honors core courses; Students entering with 45-59 hours need one honors core course; Students entering with 60+ hours are not required to take honors core courses. (The number of credits earned will be determined based on the calculation of hours earned prior to matriculation at Georgia Southern as they appear in a student’s DegreeWorks audit.)
3. Experiential Learning: One Experiential Learning Activity per year: three for those entering as sophomores, two for those entering as juniors, one for those entering as seniors

4. College Departmental Honors: Completion of College and/or Departmental Honors Courses
5. Honors Thesis: Includes proposal submitted one year before graduation as well as submission and presentation of the thesis prior to graduation