



Honors Curriculum

Students in the Meredith Honors Program take 28 hours of Honors courses, about a quarter of their total course load, while maintaining an overall grade point average of 3.25. Any course may be taken for Honors credit, with permission from the course's instructor.

The Honors program consists of five parts:

- * **General Education (7 hours)**
- * **Electives (6 hours)**
- * **Colloquia (6 hours)**
- * **The Major (6 hours)**
- * **Thesis (3 hours)**

General Education (7 hours)

Two of the College's general education requirements—in writing and in lab science—must be completed as Honors courses. A special section of the required English composition course is offered in the freshman year just for Honors students. If the student places out of this section, she may take advanced composition as her Honors writing course. To satisfy the lab science requirement, Honors students may enroll in special Honors sections of biology or chemistry, or arrange to do Honors work in physics or earth science.

Electives (6 hours)

Each semester, several Honors courses are offered in popular fields of study, just for Honors students. Recent choices have included calculus, economics, psychology, and western civilization. These electives typically count towards the College's general requirements. Alternatively, students can take any course in the College for Honors credit by making arrangements with the course instructor. Two of the student's elective classes will be for Honors credit.

Colloquia (6 hours)

At least three colloquia are offered each year for Honors students. Typically team-taught and usually inter-disciplinary, these Honors colloquia offer excellent opportunities for broadening the student's interests. Recent offerings have included courses in the Vietnam era, the Holocaust, astronomy (with night-time observations), contemporary issues in religion and science, creativity in the arts and sciences, computer technology, and Native American history. Recent honors colloquia include Sub-Saharan Africa, Memory and Memoir, and The Digital Self, which join perennial favorites such as Introduction to Native American History and Culture and The Science behind CSI. Honors students take two colloquia.

The Major (6 hours)

At Meredith, an Honors student may choose any major in the catalog. Two Honors courses will be in the major area. Working with the professors in the major department, students devise and carry out assignments that add depth to their knowledge in that field. Typically students revise class assignments to focus on their interests and abilities—extending a writing assignment, offering a class presentation, making a video, or attending and reviewing a performance.

Thesis (3 hours)

As a culminating project at the end of her college career, the student will engage in an Honors research project on a topic of her choice, usually in the major. Working one-on-one with a chosen professor, she may engage in library research or fieldwork, conduct a laboratory experiment, prepare a recital or show—whatever best demonstrates her mastery of a body of knowledge.