



COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Departmental Honors (DH) is an Advanced Scholarship track of Commonwealth Honors College (CHC). Students may complete DH as part of the full CHC curriculum, which includes Honors General Studies, or they may complete DH alone. All DH students are members of CHC.

Successful completion of the DH course requirements with minimum grades of B (or as specified below) and the submission of a properly formatted Honors Thesis or Project manuscript (minimum grade of B for Seminar manuscripts) will result in the award of "Departmental Honors" on the student's academic transcript. For information about DH, speak with your Honors Program Director and see Admission Process below. For information about the full CHC Curriculum, see <http://www.honors.umass.edu/curriculum>.

General Admission Criteria

Minimally, to be eligible to apply for DH, students must have • An overall GPA of 3.400 or higher earned after one or more fulltime semester/s of UMass Amherst coursework • The ability to complete the DH sub-plan requirements • The ability to complete the CHC minimum residency requirement, i.e., 45-graded (not pass/fail) credits earned at UMass Amherst (not transferred)

Departmental Admission Criteria

Entry to COMPSCI DH requires the applicant to have completed the COMPSCI 200-level core courses (220, 230, 240 and 250 for BS students; any three of 220, 230, 240 and 250 for BA students).

Admissions Process

- UMass Amherst students who are not already members of CHC must apply to Departmental Honors, an Advanced Scholarship CHC sub-plan, via the CHC online application using the following link: <http://www.honors.umass.edu/admissions/apply-current-students>
- Students who are already members of CHC and who meet the admission requirements for the CS Departmental Honors track (see Admission Criteria above) should complete the online pre-application available at: <http://www.cics.umass.edu/cics-honors-admission-application>.

Program Requirements

- 1 COMPSCI honors course any level
- 1 COMPSCI honors course 300-level or higher
- Honors Thesis or Project. Options include:
 - Individually contracted: COMPSCI 499Y Honors Research and COMPSCI 499T Honors Thesis or 499P Honors Project
 - Seminar: COMPSCI 691DD followed by individually contracted COMPSCI 499T or 499P Honors Thesis or Project. Note: this option is for theses or projects that will involve a substantial empirical component. See the Honors Program Director for permission to enroll in 691DD.

Notes: The COMPSCI courses used for honors must be for COMPSCI majors, excluding "service" courses 102 and 105.

- When offered, 1cr COMPSCI 291H, 391H and 491H seminars plus their pre-requisite non-honors root course are acceptable as DH electives.

Requirement Exceptions

Note: exceptions to the requirements above require approval by both the Honors Program Director (HPD) and a Commonwealth Honors College advisor; requests must be submitted in writing via the CHC [Petition for Exception form](#)

Departmental Links

<https://www.cs.umass.edu/ugrad-education/honors-track>

General Links

Honors Program Directors: <http://honorsapp.honors.umass.edu/courseguide/honorsCoordinators.aspx>

CHC Application: <http://www.honors.umass.edu/joining-honors-college>

Honors Credentialing: <http://www.honors.umass.edu/gradhonors2013on>

Honors Thesis or Project: <http://www.honors.umass.edu/capstone-experience>

Manuscript documentation and formatting: <http://www.honors.umass.edu/capstone/formatting>

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