



Honors Program Fact Sheet

One must maintain an overall GPA of 3.4. If the GPA falls below 3.4, one has two semesters to raise it to a 3.4 or above.

The following table is used as the guideline in determining academic standing based on a cumulative GPA.

Credits	Good Standing	Probation	Dismissal
0-30	GPA>=3.40	3.40>GPA>=3.00	GPA<3.00
31-60	GPA>=3.40	3.40>GPA>=3.10	GPA<3.10
61+	GPA>=3.40	3.40>GPA>=3.20	GPA<3.20

As of the Fall of 2015, students in the Honors Program must earn a **minimum grade of "B"** in an Honors-designated course in order to earn Honors credit.

PROGRAM REVIEW

At the end of every semester, a program review is conducted by the Director of the Honors Program, in consultation with the Associate Dean, to determine the status of every Honors student in the Honors Program, and a letter is sent to the Honors student informing him or her of their program status.

You must complete **18 credits of Honors**, including an Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar and Honors Research.

The credit breakdown is as follows:

Credits Earned	Required Honors Credits Earned
30	6
60	9
90	12
120	18

This credit breakdown means that in the freshman year (0-30 credits) an Honors Program student must earn 6 Honors credits. In the sophomore year (31-60 credits) an Honors Program student must earn 3 Honors credits, for a total of 9 Honors credits. In the junior year (61-90 credits) one must earn 3 Honors credits, for a total of 12 Honors credits. In the senior year (91-120 credits) one must earn 6 Honors credits, for a total of 18 Honors credits.

Of those 18 Honors credits, 3 must be through an Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar and 3 must be through Honors Research, both of which would work best when taken during the junior or senior year (leaving 12 Honors credits to be earned from classes, whether designated Honors courses or courses turned into Honors credit via Honors-by-Contract). Bear in mind that 18 Honors credits is the **minimum requirement** to complete the Honors Program.

The **Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar** is a course typically taught by a professor in collaboration with multiple professors from different divisions/schools. In the past, the Honors Program offered one on the Holocaust, which covers Literature, Psychology, History, and Religion, and on Globalization, which covers Literature, History, and the Natural Sciences. This year we are offering Transcultural Facets of Healthcare and Genocide in Art and Literature as well as The Secret History of the Fairy Tale and Great Ideas in Education.

Honors Research is an independent research project that an Honors student completes and presents on. The Honors student chooses a faculty mentor to work with on the research for a semester (or two if the student chooses to extend the research) and the topic of that research. Then the Honors student must present that research at the Honors Research Symposium or its equivalent.



Mission Statement and Program Outcomes

The Honors Program at Mount Saint Mary College fosters students' demonstration of superior scholarship in multiple disciplines, while preparing them to assume leadership through service to the college community and beyond.

Program Outcomes of the Honors Program

To accomplish this mission, the Honors students adhere to the following outcomes of the Honors Program:

- Pursue their academic goals in the spirit of intellectual rigor, seeking excellence in their own discipline and establishing connections in a cross-disciplinary context.
- Express creativity in the consideration and application of intellectual ideas, thus bringing depth and enrichment to those ideas
- Engage in self-directed learning to hone a spirit of independence
- Demonstrate a deep aesthetic appreciation for the artistic traditions
- Engage in service initiatives through Honors Program- and college-led projects
- Model leadership by showing others how to pursue rigor, express creativity, engage in self-directed learning, develop an aesthetic appreciation, and engage in service initiatives