

Honors Opportunities: Texas A&M University at Qatar

University Honors Program: We continue to look for new ways to recognize and motivate our best and brightest students. To this end, similar to the Honors Program on the main campus, we will offer honors opportunities, which will give students the option to work with other high-achieving students in special course and research endeavors. Participation in these activities will be noted on student transcripts to signal to future employers and graduate schools that these students have participated in an enriched curriculum.

Source: *Annual Report, 2006-2007*, Texas A&M University at Qatar, pp. 9-10. Available at: http://www.qatar.tamu.edu/publicaffairs/_files/TAMUQ_AnRep_06-07web.pdf.)

Note: The Honors Programs Advisory Committee of Texas A&M University approved the following two TAMUQ Honors Plans on September 5, 2007:

Honors at TAMUQ

The Honors Program at Texas A&M at Qatar is based on the ‘stacked model.’ This means that students who are honors eligible (see Honors Eligibility) are enrolled in the same courses with regular students. The Honors Students attend the same lectures and take the same exams as their fellow students but their instructors have designed special projects for them in the subject areas. This does not necessarily mean that there is ‘more’ work for an Honors Student, but it does mean that there is different work from the mainstream class work: This should be thought of as study that provides greater enrichment and a deeper appreciation of some of the more complex and subtle problems in the subject area be it a problem in petroleum engineering, chemistry, math, history, or political science.

At the first of each semester, if the student elects to enter the Honors Program and is eligible, the instructor will meet separately with the Honors Students and supply them with a separate honors course syllabus that will detail the expected honors project(s) and its percentage of the semester average. The instructor will also announce the schedule of meetings he will have with his honors students over the course of the semester. He may choose to meet frequently and in groups; or, less frequently and in private sessions. The design and implementation of the Honors Enrichment is driven by the instructor with the special interests and abilities of the students in mind.

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Honors Eligibility

Participation in the Honors Program does not require formal application.

Entering Freshmen:

To be considered for honors course work, new freshmen entering Texas A&M University at Qatar must meet the following requirements:

1. Earned at least a 90% average in high school

AND

2. Either:

1. Present a composite score (Math plus Critical Reading) of at least 1250 on the SAT (or a minimum composite score of 28 on the ACT), with a minimum score of 570 in both of the critical reading and math sections (or a minimum score of 27 in both the English and Math sections on the ACT).

OR

2. Present a minimum SAT math score of 680 (or a minimum of 30 on the ACT Math section) AND a minimum score of 600 on paper-based TOEFL (or 100 on TOEFL iBT or 250 on TOEFL CBT or a 7.5 on the IELTS tests).

For Continuing Students:

To be considered for honors course work, continuing students must have completed at least nine hours and have a cumulative TAMUQ GPR of at least 3.5.

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FOUNDATION HONORS

Requirements:

- Complete 1 (one) honors course (3 or 4 credit hours) from each of the required areas of the University Core Curriculum for a total of 19 hours of honors coursework.
- Complete at least 12 credit hours of the required honors coursework in residence at Texas A&M at Qatar.
- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative TAMUQ GPR
- Maintain a 3.25 cumulative Honors GPR

Communication (3 hrs)

Natural Science (4 hrs)

Mathematics (3 hrs)

U.S. History or Political Science (3 hrs)

AND

Courses in two of the following three areas (6 hrs):

Humanities, and/or

Visual & Performing Arts, and/or

Social & Behavioral Sciences

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Guidelines

- AP exam scores 1 (one) point higher and IB exam scores 2 (two) points higher than scores required by TAMUQ for credit may be applied toward Foundation Honors requirements (see catalog for more AP/IB information).
- A maximum of 7 credit hours gained from AP/IB exams may be applied toward Foundations Honors requirements.

Procedure

1. Meet with an Academic Adviser in the Academic Services Office at least two semesters before graduation to verify your intent to graduate with Foundation Honors.
2. Track your progress by noting each completed course in the appropriate section of the Foundation Honors Checklist. Remember, you are working towards completing 1 (one) honors course in each area.
3. Meet with an Academic Adviser for an exit interview two months prior to graduation. Since this exit interview is MANDATORY, make sure to schedule an appointment.

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UNIVERSITY HONORS

Requirements:

- Complete either Option A or B:
 - A. Earn a total of 36 honors credit hours
 - B. Earn a total of 33 honors credit hours (the 36 hours is reduced to 33 when a student takes at least 3 hours of Honors Independent Study)
- Complete at least 12 credit hours of the required honors coursework in residence at TAMUQ
- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative TAMUQ GPR
- Maintain a 3.25 cumulative Honors GPR

Mathematics and/or Natural Science (6 hrs)

Humanities, and/or Visual & Performing Arts, and/or Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hrs)

Upper-division honors courses (i.e. 300 & 400 level (12 hrs)

The remaining hours are general electives and may come at any level in any field of study.

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Guidelines:

- AP exam scores 1 (one) point higher and IB exam scores 2 (two) points higher than scores required by TAMUQ for credit may be applied toward Foundation Honors requirements (see catalog for more AP/IB information).
- A maximum of 12 credit hours gained from AP/IB exams may be applied toward University Honors requirements.

Procedure

1. Meet with an Academic Adviser in the Academic Services Office at least two semesters before graduation to verify your intent to graduate with University Honors.
2. Track your progress by noting each completed course in the appropriate section of the Foundation Honors Checklist.
3. Meet with an Academic Adviser for an exit interview two months prior to graduation. Since this exit interview is MANDATORY, make sure to schedule an appointment.