Requirements of the University Honors Program

To receive the transcript designation “Completed University Honors Program” upon graduation from NC State, students must:

1. **Complete 12 credit hours of HON courses with a grade of B- or better earned in each course.**
   - Students entering the UHP as freshmen must enroll in and complete at least one 3-credit hour HON seminar in their first semester, preferably one of the seminars restricted to incoming freshmen. Students entering the program in their second or third semester at NC State must complete one HON seminar within their first eligible semester in the program. UHP students must complete an additional nine credit hours of HON seminars (ideally within the first four semesters).
   - One HON seminar may be substituted with a pre-approved course listed on the UHP website as “HON seminar substitutes.” Other courses may be considered for seminar replacement, subject to approval by the student’s UHP advisor. Courses used for HON substitutions must be passed with a grade of B- or better. Credit-only does not count unless pre-approved by the student's UHP advisor. All seminar substitutes also require filing forms, which are located on the UHP website. Please note that Honors sections of courses and Honors contracts in regular courses do not satisfy the HON course requirement (please consult with your UHP advisor for exceptions).

2. **Complete 1 semester of Scholars Forum (USP 110)²**

3. **Complete a 6-credit hour (or equivalent) Honors Capstone Project.** All UHP students must complete a two-semester capstone research/creative project (typically done in the junior and/or senior year) that results in a public presentation of the work (e.g., performance, oral defense, talk or poster at a research symposium). A minimum of 3 graded credit hours of the project must be reflected on the student’s transcript. Students must receive a minimum of B- or better for all graded credit hours to successfully complete the Capstone. The Capstone proposal must be submitted for approval by the student’s UHP advisor no later than the 10th day of class during the semester in which the project has begun. For many students the capstone requirement will be satisfied in whole or in part by the research/thesis project of their disciplinary honors program. It MAY also be satisfied by modified senior design projects in the College of Engineering and the College of Design, subject to approval in advance by the student’s UHP advisor. HON 498 and HON 499 exist to provide for capstone project registration for students who are not part of a disciplinary honors program and/or do not have another senior project opportunity. The capstone requirement may be satisfied by a variety of course combinations (including HON 395, HON 397, and Honors Study Abroad) as long as those combinations comprise an integrated and approved Capstone experience.

4. **Earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25.** UHP students must maintain a minimum 3.25 GPA throughout their undergraduate career in order to remain in the program. If a student’s cumulative GPA falls into the range of 3.00-3.24, the student is placed on probation and has one semester to regain a GPA of 3.25. The student retains access to most aspects of the program during the probation period. If after one semester their GPA is not above 3.25 or at any time when their cumulative GPA falls below 3.00, the student is no longer able to participate in the program (but may reapply for admission once their GPA is above a 3.25). Students are limited to one probation. If their GPA falls below 3.25 a second time, they will be dropped from the program. First semester freshmen may be granted a two-semester rather than one-semester probation. At the time of graduation from NC State, the final cumulative GPA must be a 3.25 or higher to receive the designation “Completed the University Honors Program.”

5. **Certify their active status in the program each semester.** UHP students must certify their active status in the UHP each semester by completing the online UHP progress report, which will be emailed to them. Failure to complete the report by the stated deadline will result automatically in loss of UHP priority registration coding and may result in being dropped from the program. Each student’s survey is reviewed by the UHP staff to confirm active status. A key element of this review is evidence of continuous enrollment in HON courses or approved substitutes until the HON credit hour minimum has been reached. Students not enrolled in an HON course or an approved substitute will be asked to justify this. In general, students are granted a maximum of two waivers from continuous enrollment until their HON seminar hours are complete, and students may not take two consecutive waivers from continuous enrollment.

6. **Maintain the highest level of integrity.** The University Honors Program is a community of scholars with very high expectations of its participants. These include not only high expectations for academic achievement, but also high expectations for integrity. UHP students are offered special opportunities because they are associated with the program. To insure that these opportunities will be available for UHP students of the future, we must maintain the reputation of the UHP as a program with the highest standards of academic excellence and academic integrity. UHP students should act according to the principal of “Honor in all things,” not only excellence and integrity in their academic performance, but also in their day-to-day life. As part of our ongoing review of the progress of UHP students, we will ask the Office of Student Conduct to certify that our students are in good-standing with regard to academic integrity and judicial violations. Those who are not will have their status in the program reviewed, with expulsion from the UHP being one possible outcome of the review.

²Applies to Fall 2018 incoming class.
Please read these guidelines carefully before you return to campus for the fall semester. All incoming students will need to attend one required information session early in the fall semester. At that time, you will be asked to return a signed and dated version of these guidelines, affirming your receipt and understanding of them.