

October 2026

Notes for advisors of Honors students

Reviewing student schedules

- All Honors College students should have at least one Honors course.
- First year (freshmen) students should have one Honors UCC. May have two or more Honors UCCs.
- Second year (sophomores) should have one Honors UCC course or track course.
- Third year (juniors) should be in an Honors track course.
- Fourth year (seniors) should be in an Honors thesis course (or Honors Business practicum)

Course planning and registration for Spring 2027 (Oct 14, less than 2 weeks away)

- All Honors College students have priority registration on Wednesday, October 14. This means they need to be advised and taught how to register now.
- Each student should have at least one Honors course. Honors courses are available by permit only. The list of courses is on the Honors website under Courses. Students should email Honors@wpunj.edu with their permit requests (including their 855, the course title, number and CRN).
- First-year Honors students will need at least one Honors UCC course (one that they need anyway). It is a good idea for them to begin to develop an 8-semester plan so that they know how they will work in their Honors track courses if they haven't already done so. Nursing students who haven't taken PSY 2110 will be pre-registered into Honors PSY 2110.
- Second year Honors students may choose an Honors UCC course or an Honors track course. They need to have applied to the Honors track to be eligible for a track course unless it is also a UCC. Music Track students should begin the Music Track with MUSI 4960. Nursing students should be in an Honors section of NUR 3500. All second year Honors students should have an 8-semester plan that includes their Honors track. Biology and Business students wanting those tracks should join their tracks now so that their courses count towards the Honors requirements.
- Third year Honors students should be in Honors track courses.
- Fourth year Honors students should be in an Honors thesis (or Honors Business Case Writing) course.

Any Honors student with junior or senior status should apply to an Honors track if they haven't already done so.

FAQ

What Honors course should my first-year Honors students choose?

If the student still needs a UCC, and there is an Honors UCC for that area, then the student should request a permit for that course.

- If the student needs or wants an Honors course open to all Honors students they may choose that course instead of an Honors UCC.

All of the UCCs my Honors student needs conflict with the courses that the student needs for their major. What should the student do?

- If the student wants or needs ANY Honors course being offered, then they should take that course.
- Students are allowed a one-time, one semester waiver. Here is the [Honors course waiver request](#)
- If the student has already had a one-semester waiver, then the student should make an appointment to speak with Dean Andrew.
- If the student is a sophomore or junior, they should join an Honors track and take an Honors track course.

My Honors sophomore/transfer student is ready to apply to their Honors track. What do they do?

- The student clicks on the Honors application in WConnect. The software recognizes the student as already a member of the Honors College and takes them directly to the track application.
- Honors recommends that students also send a short email to the track director. It could say something like: “Hi Dr. O’Donnell, My name is Barbara and I’m interested in the Humanities Track. Should I meet with you before applying?”

My Honors sophomore/transfer doesn’t know which Honors track they want to choose. How can I help them?

- Students can find out more about the Honors tracks [here](#). Click on the name of the track to expand the description.
- The tracks and the order in which to take the track courses are explained more fully in the [HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)
- Tell the student to email Honors@wpunj.edu to find out when they can meet with other students to learn more about the tracks.

Are there any spring travel courses?

- There is a one-credit course with Spring Break travel to Athens, Greece.
- There is a three-credit course with May travel to Brazil. This course is for second, third and fourth year students.
- There are significant additional fees for these experiences.
- These courses count towards the “one Honors course per semester” requirement.

What are the Honors scholarship rules?

- First, second-, and third-year students: fall and spring semester GPA is 3.25 or higher; otherwise on probation; dismissed after 3 semesters.
- Must have cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher to apply to an Honors track.
- Must graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher to have Honors noted as completed on the transcript and diploma.
- Winter and summer courses – those terms don’t count as semester GPA.
- Encourage the students to stay in their courses. It is ultimately more expensive to be at WP for an extra semester than it is to lose the Honors scholarship.

Questions? Have the student email Honors@wpunj.edu or stop by the Honors office
Technical questions about the track application? Send those to Honors@wpunj.edu too!

If you (the advisor) have questions, please email AndrewB@wpunj.edu or PinkstonJ@wpunj.edu or message Barbara on Teams.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!