

Table of Contents

Why Should I Accept?.....	2
Everyone graduate receives the same diploma. So now that I heard about the courses, why should I do this?.....	2
Membership.....	2
Why do we need to respond to the invitation by the deadline?.....	2
If I do not respond by the deadline or decline the invitation, what will happen to my membership status for the Program?.....	2
I did not decide to accept the invitation. Can I join the Program at a later time?.....	2
I believe that I fulfill the criteria to be invited into the Program. What should I do?.....	2
How do I complete the Program successfully?.....	2
Am I able to withdraw from the Program?.....	3
Course Selection.....	3
I have advanced placement credit pending for one of the honors courses offered. What course selections should I submit?.....	3
When are classes offered?.....	3
Can courses completed abroad or at another institution be transferred to Bryant as honors-designated?.....	3
How does the Bachelor of Science in International Business (BSIB) degree integrate with The Honors Program?.....	3
How does participation in the Study Abroad Program affect membership in The Honors Program?.....	3
Why are certain courses not available for some honors members?.....	4
Am I required to complete a specific number of honors-designated courses in my first year? Do they need to be specific courses?.....	4
General Questions.....	4
Where can I find information and forms on the Honors Program?.....	4
How do I contact the Coordinator? Or schedule an appointment?.....	4
Does membership in The Honors Program affect my financial aid?.....	4
Are honors courses more difficult?.....	4
Can I remain active in extra-curricular activities or varsity sports and be successful in The Honors Program?.....	5
Does membership isolate me from other students?.....	5
Expectations.....	5
What should I expect at Orientation in June?.....	5
What should I expect when I begin in September?.....	5
How many people complete the Program?.....	6
Closing Comments.....	6

WHY SHOULD I ACCEPT?

Everyone graduate receives the same diploma. So now that I heard about the courses, why should I do this?

Two words ... Personal Pride! These courses offer more unique challenges to students who desire a different delivery model. Completing these courses, like the program itself, is a choice ... a choice for those who believe that a different journey to build confidence and self-esteem. Remember, everyone may receive the same “piece of paper,” but everyone does not receive the same education. As Robert Frost said ... “... *taking the road less traveled made all the difference.*”

MEMBERSHIP

Why do we need to respond to the invitation by the deadline?

When students arrive for Orientation in June, the majority of your schedule will already be completed. Schedules for first-year students are compiled based on procedures designed to cohort students into core, required courses which all students must complete. Therefore, the University will begin the tedious process of scheduling the entire first-year class by early-June. During Orientation, you will be allowed to register for an elective course of your choosing.

If I do not respond by the deadline or decline the invitation, what will happen to my membership status for the Program?

Due to the scheduling process for first-year students, only those students who accept their invitation will be designated as members in the Program and scheduled for honors-designated courses.

I did not decide to accept the invitation. Can I join the Program at a later time?

Yes. However, all students, whether have received an invitation or not, will be asked to submit a formal application. The submission will include the submission of first-semester final grades, transcripts, coursework plan and letters of recommendation from faculty. Also, it is important to remember that students considering late membership are required to complete all requirements (eight courses) by the student’s anticipated graduation date.

I believe that I fulfill the criteria to be invited into the Program. What should I do?

The Office of Admission evaluates each application submission. Positive decisions relating to invitation are included on the student’s acceptance letter. All inquiries on this process should be directed to the Director of Undergraduate Admission at (401) 232-6000.

How do I complete the Program successfully?

As of June 2010, the candidacy requirements are as follows: 1) completion of at least seven honors-designated courses (as outlined in the distribution requirements), 2) completion of HON490 and 3) achieving the minimum GPA requirements (overall: 3.40, honors 3.20).

Members are encouraged to complete more than the twenty-four credits of honors-designated courses. Ensure that your honors coursework fulfills the current distribution requirements as outlined on the official Program website.

Am I able to withdraw from the Program?

Yes. However, it is highly suggested not to embark on an easy “exit strategy” to withdraw from the Program. See other FAQs that discuss honors classes and other commitments.

COURSE SELECTION

I have advanced placement credit pending for one of the honors courses offered. What course selections should I submit?

AP and non-Bryant coursework are evaluated during the early summer. It is recommended to select the course selections based on what you would like to complete during your first-semester, regardless of your pending transfer credit. For example, if you have Microeconomics AP credit pending, select ECO113 as your first or second choice if you would like to complete the microeconomics as an honors course. If the AP credit transfer is successful, we will re-schedule you into your next choice.

When are classes offered?

Honors-designated classes are scheduled each semester in the same manner as other courses. The schedule for the subsequent semesters is posted in the previous semester. Honors-designated courses are not offered during the Summer and Wintersession semesters. Members are encouraged to check Banner in March (Fall) and October (Spring) for the day/time for honors-designated courses. The portfolio of honors-designated courses can be found on the Program’s website.

User instruction and login information associated with Banner are available through the Office of Undergraduate Advising.

Can courses completed abroad or at another institution be transferred to Bryant as honors-designated?

No.

How does the Bachelor of Science in International Business (BSIB) degree integrate with The Honors Program?

Due to the cohort nature of the BSIB program, members will need to contract some business courses. However, with the exception of special circumstances, no more than three contracts will be allowed.

How does participation in the Study Abroad Program affect membership in The Honors Program?

It really does not. However, members need to consider that participation in a study abroad semester will remove one semester from their ability to register/complete an honors course. Therefore, members have seven semesters to complete the requirements of the Program. A

proper and timely dialogue with an undergraduate advisor should be completed as early as possible to plan accordingly.

Why are certain courses not available for some honors members?

Two courses are not available by some students. BUS101 cannot be elected for International Business students. Due to degree requirements, MATH107 cannot be taken by actuarial majors.

Am I required to complete a specific number of honors-designated courses in my first year? Do they need to be specific courses?

Yes, no. All members are required to complete two honors course by the end of their first year. These courses can consist of either liberal arts or business. It is strongly recommended to complete more than the minimum of two. Several members have completed at least four during their first year.

After the first semester, you can decide on how many to register/complete in subsequent semesters. It is highly recommended to meet with an undergraduate advisor to develop a plan for completing both your degree and honors program requirements.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Where can I find information and forms on the Honors Program?

Most information, forms, instructions, requirements and contact information can be viewed at the official website of the Program at <http://www.bryanthonors.com>.

How do I contact the Coordinator? Or schedule an appointment?

Visit the official website and select **Contact**. Appointments should be scheduled the web-based appointment scheduling program. You can find this website through the **Contact** page.

Does membership in The Honors Program affect my financial aid?

The requirements and specific awards associated with financial aid are independent of membership in the Program. Contact the Office of Financial Aid with those questions.

Are honors courses more difficult?

This is the single-most asked question! It is also somewhat difficult to answer accurately and to quantify in any course. Professors are different. Students “*enjoy*” some courses more than others. Courses are different in structure, pace and assignment load. Faculty are encouraged to deliver their courses based on their academic, professional and past experiences.

Difficulty is not easy to accurately measure coursework. The small class sizes and customized nature of the classes often are embraced by students who desire a different, more personalized delivery of classroom material and assignments. At least half of honors students are more successful in honors courses as compared to mainstream coursework.

While it may be contradictory or difficult to believe, we continue to hear that those courses which are most challenging are those where students learn more and enjoy the coursework. In addition, we continue to observe honors students teach and tutor their peers for mainstream coursework. The true success of learning is when you can teach others.

Honors programs are an environment to cultivate learning and academic excellence. Refrain from the tendency of using honors-designated courses as an excuse for a lower grade or poor performance. It has been our experience that students who withdraw from the Program maintain a similar GPA after their withdrawal.

Can I remain active in extra-curricular activities or varsity sports and be successful in The Honors Program?

In a study of active honors members, a clear majority of members (72%) are involved in at least two extra-curricular activities with 33% fulfilling a leadership role in an university organization. Almost half of members (42%) are working.

As with extra-curricular activities, several members have completed the Program while participating in a varsity sport. The dialogue associated with athletes who cannot successfully complete The Honors Program does not correlate with the objective facts.

Ultimately, this academic program requires commitment, sincerity of purpose and an objective mindset as in any other initiative worth completing. It is consistent, with both honors and non-honors students, that the majority of students who are active in campus organizations are also the best academically performing students.

As quoted by a famous athlete, Michael Jordan ... ***No excuses!***

Does membership isolate me from other students?

Absolutely not.

Firstly, there are only eight courses to complete the Program; you need about 40 courses for the completion of your degree. So that is only about 20% of your courses.

Second, you will find that many of your strongest supporters and friends will be from The Program; but not all. As with any initiative during your college career, explore many people, organizations, jobs, internships and opportunities that a university community can offer.

EXPECTATIONS

What should I expect at Orientation in June?

There is a special luncheon (or dinner) for you and your family on the first day of orientation. Be sure to look in your registration package for the details on the time and place of the event.

What should I expect when I begin in September?

This is a very clear answer ... your best! We will expect that you will engage in the pursuit of academic excellence. As you submit each project, exam and term paper, the fact that your name is branded on the submission says that it is your best work ... that you will be proud of your submission. A successful approach could be explained on how some athletes approach playing their sport ... play the game like it would be your last. Transitioning that mindset to academics, you could say *“Would I want to submit this (exam, project) to the person that has hired me for my first job?”* Your constant pursuit of excellence builds confidence. True and sincere self-esteem is not given, but earned. The University will offer you our support, mentoring and advice ... you offer your effort, engagement and dedication to excellence.

We will expect you to read all correspondence ... follow all of the rules, procedures and deadlines associated with the Program ... engage fully on your journey to complete.

How many people complete the Program?

Many college students begin their new educational experience with a variety of aspirations, goals and thoughts. As in many other life initiatives, changes will always occur ... changes in attitudes, perspectives and goals. In many cases, students do not see the value to selecting a different “road” associated with their pursuit of an education; The Honors Program is one of those changes that may occur for you. National statistics claim that between 15-18% of students will complete the requirements associated with an honors program. Since 2006, we are proud to report that our statistics are higher than the national average. Thirty-four members of the Class of 2010 completed the Program; approximately 28% of their original cohort class.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Not everyone can be the CEO of a Fortune 500 organization ... or complete a four-year varsity sport ... or become President of the United States ... or become a famous celebrity. Success in life is a matter of choice, determination and dedication. It is just that simple!

Anything that is worth completing is also paired with sacrifice, focus and commitment. As the objective or goal increases in value, so does the effort that is required to achieve it. It may be cliché, but it is absolutely true.

Those of us involved in the Program continue to observe and hear the same theme each year from our graduates ... *“I am truly a different person for having finished this Program.”* Therefore, ...

Will you be the next exceptionally prepared, poised and confident graduate?

Or take a different road?