

Honors Program
in the Department of Biomedical Engineering

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INTRODUCTION

The Honors Program in the Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME) is designed for high-ability students who are interested in more vigorous and in-depth academic challenges. Students enrolled in this program will have access to a variety of special fellowships and research opportunities unavailable to other students. These benefits include:

- Priority registration
- Innovative honors courses
- Undergraduate research fellowships for up to \$3,000
- Opportunity to win Study abroad grants after completing six hours of honors courses
 - \$1000 to \$3000 for summer programs
 - \$2000 to \$7000 for semester programs
- Honors community housing
- Special assistance in applying for prestigious scholarships and post-graduate fellowships
- Latin distinction at graduation

Students enrolled in the BME Honors Program will automatically be enrolled in the College of Engineering Honors Program and the University of Arkansas Honors College, which will further enrich the academic learning experience at the University of Arkansas.

ENROLLMENT IN THE HONORS PROGRAM

Students must meet the following qualifications in order to enroll in the BME Honors Program:

- High School GPA of at least 3.50; ACT Score of at least 28 or SAT Score of at least 1240 for entering freshmen
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 for current UA undergraduates
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 on transfer classes for transfer students

For additional information regarding the College of Engineering Honors Program, go to http://www.engr.uark.edu/honors_program.php. Students must register for the program before beginning honors thesis study.

GRADUATING FROM THE HONORS PROGRAM

BME Honors students will be recognized at graduation by the Honors Latin designation defined as following:

- GPA of 3.50 or greater: cum laude (with honors);
- GPA of 3.75 or greater: magna cum laude (with high honors);
- GPA of 3.90 or greater: summa cum laude (with highest honors).

In order to be recognized by the Honors Latin designation from BME Honors Program at graduation, students must

- Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or greater
- Take a minimum of 12 hours of honors courses, with at least 6 of these 12 hours in BME
- Complete an undergraduate research, write and defend an honors thesis
- Complete Honors College Graduation Certification prior to one week before the last day of classes of the last semester of study

HONORS COURSEWORK

Students must take a minimum of 12 hours of honors courses, with at least 6 of these 12 hours in BME including BMEG 450VH Honors thesis as an honors student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. Below are the honors courses offered in the BME department of which one is required:

- BMEG 3653H Biomedical Modeling and Numerical Methods
- BMEG 3824H Biomolecular Engineering
- BMEG 4623H Biomedical Transport Phenomenon

In addition to the normal pre- and co-requisites for the regular section of the class, students require instructor consent to enroll in the honors section of a course. Students must receive the consent by the end of the first week of classes. Students will need to identify the honors assignment and a faculty mentor for conducting the honor's assignment. Students are required to complete an honors class assignment that is mentored by the instructor of record or another faculty member in addition to attending the regular section of the class. The honors assignment should consist of 10-20 hours of work on a project related to the course content.

If the honors assignments are incomplete at the end of the semester, the student will receive an 'I' in the course BMEG 450VH and the final course grade will be entered into the student's record after the completion of the assignments and honors thesis defense. Students are not allowed to switch from the honors section to the regular (non-honors) section (or the regular section to the honors section) once the deadline "to register, add a course, or change from audit to credit" has passed.

HONORS THESIS

In addition to the honors coursework, the honors student is required to complete an honors thesis research project. The honors thesis project should be designed to enrich students' research experience and offer in-depth training in a special field. It can be either hypothesis or technology-driven. The student must complete the Honors Thesis Proposal Form and the honors thesis research project must be approved by the Department Honors Program Committee. The students who choose to perform honors thesis research must register for BMEG 450VH, Honors

thesis, under the direction of a faculty mentor in ISIS. BMEG 450VH can be counted as a BMEG engineering elective to satisfy the undergraduate degree requirement.

Upon the completion of the honors thesis research, the students are required to submit their honors theses. An honors thesis is a document presenting students' research and findings. The students can defend their theses to their Honors Advisory Committee. The Honors Advisory Committee must have a minimum of three faculty members consisting of the Thesis Advisor and two additional faculty. One of the committee members must be a BMEG faculty. They can elect to present their research at an Honors Thesis Symposium organized by the Department Honors Program Committee if applicable.

In case the honors student works with non-BME faculty for honors thesis research, the student is required to inform Departmental Honors Program Coordinator about the title of the research project, a brief description of the research work, and the name of thesis mentor.

Honors Thesis Format

An honors thesis and an oral presentation must be prepared by the student. All honors theses must have a title page and thesis signature page as required by the College of Engineering (<http://www.engr.uark.edu/home/4380.php>). Here is a suggested format:

- Title Page
- One-page summary
- Introduction including background, rationale, and significance of the work
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussions and the future work
- Acknowledge
- References
- Appendix

An honors thesis must be submitted electronically to and approved by the Department Honors Coordinator, before being transmitted to the Engineering Dean's office.

GRADUATION

A student who completes the aforementioned honors coursework and honors thesis will be recognized at graduation by the Honors Degree.

Department of Biomedical Engineering
Honors Degree Check Form

Name:

Student ID:

Major:

- Apply to the BME Honors Program**
- Take required honors course** (A minimum of 12 hours of honors courses, with at least 6 of these 12 hours in BME department)
- Select an honors project mentor**
- Complete and submit honors thesis form** (The form must be submitted 15 months prior to graduation)
- Receive an approval for the honors thesis from the Department Honors Committee**
- Perform honors thesis research project**
- Complete and submit the thesis to your faculty mentor**
- Present honors research results**
- Complete and submit the Honors College Graduation Certification**