Marquette University Honors Program
Prospective Students: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there an ACT/SAT cutoff for admission to Honors?
A: Many students in Honors have a 28 ACT Composite score or above, but we do not use a score cutoff for admission, nor is there a required high school GPA. Motivation, curiosity, and academic engagement are the strongest predictors of success in Honors. If you feel that you’d be a good fit for the program and do not receive an invitation to apply after you receive your admission to Marquette, please contact us.

Q: Are Honors first-years required to live in the Honors Living-Learning Community in Straz?
A: No, the LLC is optional. About 70% of incoming first-years choose it. Space in the community is available on a first-come, first-served basis, and we can accommodate most requests. Only Honors students may live in the LLC; you may not room with a non-Honors roommate in the LLC. Honors sophomores also have the option to live in the LLC.

Q: Does Marquette offer Honors scholarships?
A: No, there are no scholarships directly associated with the University Honors Program. We do offer competitive research fellowships and study-abroad scholarships to current Honors students.

Q: Do Honors students get special advising?
A: Yes, Honors students have Honors advisors throughout their careers at Marquette. We assist not only with Honors classes but with internships, research opportunities, and prestigious scholarships. Students also have college and major advisors.

Q: Do Marquette Honors students get priority registration?
A: Yes, Core Honors students register for both their non-Honors and Honors classes before non-Honors students. Incoming Core Honors first-years register for their first-semester classes before they come to the SPARK orientation program in June.

Q: What are the benefits of being in the University Honors Program?
A: Honors is a set of opportunities rather than perks. Honors encourages strong faculty-student relationships, independent learning, and a broad set of skills and knowledge that are valuable for both graduate and professional school and employment, and the program supports research and study-abroad both curricularly and with scholarships. Most Honors students find the Honors student community very significant to their lives at Marquette.

Q: Can I apply to Honors after I arrive at Marquette, during my freshman or sophomore year?
A: Core Honors is open only to incoming first-years. In rare cases transfer students will find that completing the Core Honors curriculum does not extend their time to graduation or require them to repeat classes; if you are a transfer student interested in Core Honors, feel free to contact us. Current students apply to Disciplinary Honors programs in their sophomore year.

Q: Does Honors accept AP/IB/college credit?
A: Honors students receive transfer credit toward their final degree according to Marquette policy here: http://www.marquette.edu/explore/documents/ap-credit-and-placement.pdf. Honors does not deviate from Marquette’s overall policy regarding transfer credit from tests or courses, except that all Core Honors students are required to take the Honors First-Year Seminar, HOPR 1955H (which also satisfies the Rhetoric requirement in the Marquette Core Curriculum), regardless of whether they have transfer credit for Rhetoric. Note that professional schools, especially in health, are increasingly requiring not just college-level writing courses but ones taken in college.

Q: What Honors classes do Honors students take, and when?
A: See our website for a full description of the Honors curriculum: http://www.marquette.edu/honors

Q: I have a demanding major. Can I still fit Honors, and study abroad, and an internship?
A: In recent years students in virtually every major at Marquette have graduated with Honors degrees, including direct-entry Physical Therapy students, Pre-Dental Scholars, and Pre-Law Scholars. We would be happy to talk with you about how your major might fit with Honors; we consider it our mission to advise every student individually, with an understanding of what matters most to her or him. Sometimes Honors turns out not to be as much of a priority as other pursuits, and that’s okay. For other very busy students, Honors turns out to be an anchor of their undergraduate experience.

If you have questions we haven’t answered, please contact us!
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