

THE PSYCHOLOGY HONORS PROGRAM

Two Semesters (Fall and Spring)

(<http://psychology.buffalo.edu/undergraduate/psychology-honors-program/>)

The Psychology Honors Program is designed for undergraduates who want to do supervised research. The program, which is completed during the senior year, involves working on a project of joint interest with a department faculty member. It is a highly rewarding and challenging experience that is similar to that encountered in most psychology graduate programs. You should have a B average (3.0) or better (overall and in psychology), and must complete PSY 450: Research Methods, prior to or concurrently with enrollment in the Honors Program.

Any type of psychological research is suitable. See the Honors website (address above) for a list of past projects. You will work on your research project throughout your senior year, writing a research proposal, gathering and analyzing your data, writing up your Honors Thesis (i.e., research report), and orally presenting and defending your work. The thesis, which is submitted at the end of the Spring semester, will be read by two faculty members who will orally examine you on it. If you successfully complete your project (both the written thesis and oral defense), at the end of the year, your transcript will indicate that you have earned either Honors, High Honors, or Highest Honors in Psychology.

If you are interested, you should begin making plans **NOW**. The most important step is to **line up a faculty advisor**. The sooner you do so, the better. One way of finding an advisor is to research faculty interests on the Psychology Department website (<http://psychology.buffalo.edu/about-us/faculty/>). It is often a good idea to contact a faculty member after you have read some of his/her recent work, to ask about research opportunities and the potential of doing an Honors project. You may also approach a professor whose class you have done well in and found interesting.

If you are a second-semester junior, you need to meet with your advisor in the Spring semester to plan background reading for the summer before you start the research. If you are a sophomore or a first-semester junior, you should seriously consider doing one or two semesters of independent study (Psychology 498) with your future Honors advisor to get research experience before your senior year. For your Honors project, it is highly recommended that you pick a topic of interest to your potential faculty advisor, which will make it easier for you to find an advisor and make maximum use of his or her talents.

Once you have secured a faculty member who is willing to serve as an advisor on your project, you need to **fill out an application, interview with the Honors Program Director, and obtain the necessary signatures** (see attached application form). If your application is approved, Christa Greenberg (cmgreen@buffalo.edu, 645-0205, Park 283), Coordinator of the Department of Psychology's Undergraduate Studies Program, will assist you with registration for the **Honors Seminar (PSY 497)**, which you must enroll in during the Fall semester of your senior year. You will register for an additional 3.0 Honors credit hours of PSY 497 during the Spring semester, which will be supervised by your faculty advisor. You must also take **PSY 450: Research Methods** either before or during the Honors year.

If you have any questions about the program, contact Dr. Wendy Quinton, Director of the Honors Program (wquinton@buffalo.edu, 645-0230, Park 348).

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE PSYCHOLOGY HONORS PROGRAM
TWO SEMESTERS (FALL AND SPRING)**

Step 1: Personal Information

Name: _____ UB Person #: _____

Permanent Address: _____ Local Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Overall GPA: _____ Psychology GPA: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

What do you plan to do after graduation? _____

What do you plan to focus on in your Honors project? _____

Step 2: Faculty Advisor's Signature

I agree to serve as the Honors faculty advisor for the student named above.

Name of Faculty Advisor (please print)

Faculty Advisor's Signature

Date

Step 3: Meet with Honors Program Director for Interview and Signature

Note: You must contact Dr. Quinton (wquinton@buffalo.edu, 716-645-0230) to set up an interview. **Bring this application completed through Step 2** to that interview and be prepared to **access your current HUB Academic Advisement Report (AAR)**.

Dr. Quinton's Signature

Date

Step 4: See Christa Greenberg

Bring this completed application to Christa Greenberg in Park 283, and she will register you for PSY 497: The Honors Seminar.