

School of Business and Economics Honors Program

The purpose of the SBE Honors Program is to allow exceptionally able, ambitious, and self-motivated students to do independent, original work, as well as to pursue further study in the field of business.

- 1.) **Admission.** Students majoring in any of the SBE degree programs (Accounting, Business Administration, Banking and Finance, or Management Information Systems) must complete an *Application for Admission* into the Honors Program (uncfsuhonors.edu), earn a minimum of 12 semester hours at FSU, and have a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.3. Applications are accepted only in the spring semester. In addition, the student must secure two letters of recommendation (one of which must be from a college faculty) and write a 250-500 word essay. Admission is based on the student's demonstrated Honors potential at FSU. Transfer students must not have more than 60 semester hours.
- 2.) **Courses.** Students fulfill the Honors Program requirements through a combination of honors designated coursework (6 credit hours) and an honors thesis (6 credit hours). All Honors students must enroll in MGMT 470 Strategic Management, BADM 490 Small Business Consulting, and a two-semester Honors Thesis course. These courses fall within the major and University degree program requirements. Students must receive a grade of "B" or better in each course. The School requires that each student sign a contract that explains the thesis project. To maintain eligibility to participate in the Honors Program, a student must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.3 Grade Point Average with at least 12 earned hours per semester. Students must complete at least four courses designated as Honors in the University College—one of which must be chosen from the following: SPEE200 OR ENGL 120.
- 3.) **Service Learning Experiences, Events, and Other Extracurricular Activities.** SBE Honors students are assigned to the SBE Honors Coordinator, who will design appropriate service learning experiences (internships, cooperative education, Study-Aboard, student conferences, etc.) in the program.
- 4.) **Certification Requirements.** To graduate with Honors in The SBE, a student must complete 30 hours of honors credit, 12 of which are at the University College level and the remaining from major or upper division courses. Upper division courses include BADM 490 Small Business Consulting, MGMT 470 Strategic Management, two (2) courses from the major (in consultation with the department chair), and a rigorous 6 credit hour (two successive courses) Honors Thesis course. The School will accept one of the two basic types of honors thesis:
 - a. Empirical Research Thesis: A journal style report of the methods, finding, and conclusions drawn from an empirical study. The student will design and conduct the research under the direction of a faculty advisor.
 - b. Library Research Thesis: An integrative and critical review of a significant body of published papers. It may also consist of a critique of significant theories and the elaboration of original theory.

The thesis involves substantially more than a term paper. It involves multiple rounds of revisions and will take two semesters to complete. At the conclusion of the courses, students must successfully defend the Honors thesis to a panel of faculty in the discipline.

Department Approval
Date _____

Honors Program Approval
Date _____