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Williams Honors College
Information Session
Honors at UA: A Tradition of Community
From Program to College

In 1975, the Honors Program was founded at The University of Akron.

In 2005, the Honors Program officially became a College within the University.

In February 2016 a generous gift from Drs. Gary B. and Pamela S. Williams allowed enhanced opportunities for students, and the college became the Williams Honors College at The University of Akron.

Williams Honors College students are among the most active on campus, not only in academics, but in campus groups, community service, student government, athletics, Greek life, and much else.
Looking for Excellence: Our Admissions Criteria & Process

Criteria

Intellectually curious, self-motivated students who are seeking exceptional opportunities to distinguish themselves at The University of Akron

Academic achievement

• High school GPA of 3.5/4.0 and
• 27 ACT composite or 1280 SAT
• Test optional for Fall 2021 cycle
• Holistic review process- transcripts, essays, awards/achievements, letters of rec

Process

Apply for admission to The University of Akron.

Complete the supplemental application for the Williams Honors College.
Looking for Excellence: Our Admissions Criteria & Process

Deadlines

• January 4 - Priority application deadline for prestigious scholarship consideration
• April 1 - Regular admission and scholarship deadline
• June 1 - Confirmation deadline

Acceptance letters will be emailed and mailed to the student. Turn around time is about 3-4 weeks.

Letters of recommendation are OPTIONAL. Upload on application, mail or can pull from UA application if submitted.
Financial Aid

Unmatched Excellence
Honors Scholarships

Every admitted Honors student is awarded an Honors Scholarship of $1000 or $1500 per academic year for 8 semesters. This is awarded in addition to the Akron Guarantee Scholarship. Additional scholarships are available through the Williams Honors College as well as individual Colleges and Departments.

Lisle M. Buckingham/Owen O. and Della M. Orr Honors Scholarship
• most prestigious honors scholarship
• tuition and fees, room and board
• eight semesters of a Williams Honors College student's academic program
• Interview process

Honors Housing Award from the Herman M. Muehlstein Fund for Scholastic Aid
• $2,000 per year for housing
• available for a student's first two years.
Advantages of Honors

Academic Excellence
Honors Academics
Honors Distribution, Honors Sections, & Colloquium Courses

• Honors Distribution allows for flexibility to meet your unique academic goals while providing a broad experience.

• Departments around campus offer Honors sections of many courses in the general curriculum, and any course can provide Honors credit by committing to increase/enhance the course requirements, with the consent of the faculty member teaching the course.

• Each Honors student takes three Honors Colloquia – one each in the areas of Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Science. A few examples of the many options available:
  • Truth, Lies, and Alternative Facts
  • Dissecting Medical Device Failures
  • The Hero
  • Hunting Witches in Early Modern Europe

Honors Graduation GPA Requirement: 3.40
Honors Academics: Research

Honors Research Projects

- Each Honors student is required to engage in some type of substantial research project before graduation.

- Some majors, including several Engineering disciplines as well as several majors in the College of Business Administration, have options for incorporating these projects directly into work being done for requirements of the major (e.g. a senior design project, a capstone course, or a leadership project).

- These research projects present outstanding opportunities to distinguish yourself, work closely with faculty members, explore an area of particular interest in a flexible way, and learn more about what you may want to do in graduate school or a professional field.
Orientation and Advising

Getting Started & Staying on Track

- Dedicated time during New Student Orientation
- **Honors Advising:** specialized advising for Honors Requirements and in many other areas within the WHC, such as research, potential paths into professional or graduate schools, career opportunities, prestigious fellowships, and more
- **Honors Faculty Advisor:** assigned in your major, you will always know whom to ask about anything from course registration, to appropriate sequencing, to how to find various opportunities around campus related to your course of study
- **Priority Registration** for classes beginning Spring semester of your Freshman year
The Honors Experience

Other Things to Keep in Mind
Honors Campus Life

Honors Residence Hall
Freshmen and Sophomores live in the Honors Complex
- Central location on campus
- Adjoins the Honors offices and classroom space

Honors Student Organizations
- Honors Delegates
- Honors Emerging Leaders
- College and Departmental Organizations (Business, Nursing, EUREKA (Engineering))
- Honors Commuters

Opportunities to create new groups any time!
Distinguish Yourself

- **Study Abroad** — see the world while earning credit
- **Graduate School, Professional School, and Career Opportunities** — prepare yourself
- **Leadership** — Emerging Leaders and other leadership development opportunities
- **Networking/Speakers** — interact with alumni and professionals
Thank You!

If you have questions please reach out!

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http://www.uakron.edu/honors/