

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

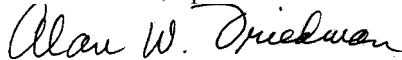
**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SECTION IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020***

Dean Linda A. Hicke in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the Secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to change the Academic Policies and Procedures section in the College of Natural Sciences chapter in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2018-2020*. On September 20, 2017, the Course and Curriculum Committee and Associate Dean David Vanden Bout, on behalf of Dean Hicke, approved the proposal. The Secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of exclusive interest to one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the proposal on September 14, 2017, and forwarded it to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Provost on behalf of the President.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by January 15, 2018.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council  
The University of Texas at Austin

Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature



departmental honors programs. The Department of Neuroscience split off from Biology and needs to establish its own honors program.

**3. THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES (Please check all that apply)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in other colleges                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course in the core curriculum                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course sequencing for an existing program   | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses that have to be added to the inventory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in admission requirements (external or internal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office) |   |

**4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE**

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes  No   
If yes, then how would you do so?
- b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes  No   
If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?
- c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes  No   
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.
- d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes  No   
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

**If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.**

How many students do you expect to be impacted?

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, explain:

**If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:**

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion?

Note: THECB Semester Credit Hour Change Form required, download from URL:

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/DocFetch.cfm?DocID=2419&format=doc>

If yes, explain:

**5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**

College approval date: September 20, 2017

Dean approval date: September 20, 2017

Course and Curriculum Committee

David Vanden Bout, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

**PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:****ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES****Academic Standards****Mathematics Placement**

{no change to this section}

**Repetition of a Course**

{No changes but relevant to new policy that follows it}

No student may enroll in any course in the College of Natural Sciences more than twice, even if the course is needed to meet degree requirements, without first obtaining the written consent of his or her major adviser and of the department that offers the course; students in colleges other than the College of Natural Sciences need only departmental approval. A symbol of *Q* or *W* counts as an enrollment unless it has been approved by the dean's office for nonacademic reasons.

A student may not repeat any course in which he or she has earned a grade of *C-* or better.

Departments in the college may have additional requirements for students who repeat courses.

**Removal from the Major**

A Natural Sciences student whose appeal to take a course in the College of Natural Sciences for a third time and is denied may be removed from the major if the course is required by the degree.

A student who is removed from the major will be placed in the undeclared major while the student examines options to pursue another major in the College of Natural Sciences or in another college. An academic adviser will work with the student to explore opportunities for academic success and graduation.

A student who transfers the course for which a repeat appeal was denied may appeal to re-enter the major from which the student was removed. Appeals to re-enter the major are reviewed by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education.

**Concurrent Enrollment**

{no change to this section}

**Undergraduates in a Graduate Course**

{no change to this section}

**Petitions for Degree Requirements**

{no change to this section}

**Honors**

There are several avenues available for undergraduates to achieve honors recognition for exemplary academic ability and performance. They include: University[wide] Honors, graduation with University Honors, college-wide honors programs, departmental honors degree options, and completion of departmental honors.

~~[University-wide Honors consists of recognition each fall and spring for students who meet the university criteria for University Honors. Graduation with University Honors consists of recognition at the time of~~

~~graduation to a percentage of the college's graduates for students who meet the University criteria for graduating with University Honors.]~~

The College of Natural Sciences offers Bachelor of Science and Arts and Bachelor of Science honors degree options in three programs that serve majors in the College of Natural Sciences: Dean's Scholars, Health Science Scholars, and Polymathic Scholars. ~~[These honors degrees are available to students in the Dean's Scholars Program, the Health Science Scholars Program, and the Polymathic Scholars Program. Each program has its own admission process and requirements for participants to remain in good standing. The College of Natural Sciences Honors Center is available for inquiries about admission and requirements.]~~ Information about admission and requirements for each is available at the CNS Honors & Scholarships website. [\[https://cns.utexas.edu/honors\]](https://cns.utexas.edu/honors)

Honors degree options that are sponsored by departments include: Turing Scholars in Computer Science; Honors in Advanced Human Development and Family Sciences Program; and the Honors in Advanced Nutritional Sciences Program.

Lastly, students may earn departmental honors upon graduation through completion and approval of an undergraduate thesis.

### **University Honors**

~~University honors are earned on a semester by semester basis. Information relating to University Honors can be found in the *General Information Catalog*. [In addition, the College of Natural Sciences encourages academic excellence through programs such as the Dean's Scholars Honors Program and Turing Scholars in Computer Science. Students may also graduate with departmental honors as described below and may earn membership in one or more of the honorary scholastic societies open to undergraduates.]~~

### **Graduation with University Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Dean's Scholars Honors Program**

~~[The Dean's Scholars Honors Program is a comprehensive honors degree program for highly motivated and talented students. The key features of the program are a first semester research methods course; a breadth requirement, usually completed during the first four semesters, that exposes students to various forms of scientific inquiry; and at least two semesters of supervised research and writing that culminate in an honors thesis. Students in good standing in the Dean's Scholars Honors Program may follow the honors option for the appropriate bachelor of science degree. The honors degree option is available in most fields in the college.]~~

Dean's Scholars is a four-year honors degree program for highly motivated and talented students with a demonstrated interest in mathematics and/or scientific research. Students earn a Bachelor of Science degree with an honors option. This option is available in all majors offered by the College of Natural Sciences.

The key features of the program are a first-semester research methods course; a breadth requirement, usually completed during the first four semesters, that exposes students to various forms of scientific inquiry; and at least two semesters of supervised research and writing that culminate in an honors thesis.

Application to the Dean's Scholars Honors Program is separate from, and in addition to, application to the University. Application materials and information about deadlines are available in the program office and on the Dean's Scholars website. Students may enter the program as freshmen~~[-as transfer students,]~~ or as college transfers prior to their fourth long semester of enrollment at the University ~~[after they have enrolled at the University. In general, students who have completed more than 50 semester hours of college coursework are not considered for admission.]~~

Factors in the admission decision are the student's high school and/or University grades, class rank, the rigor of the courses the student has taken, the quality of the required application essays, a strong recommendation from a mathematics or science instructor, and the student's interest in mathematics and/or scientific research as demonstrated by extracurricular activities. [~~faculty recommendations, and the student's interest and aptitude in math and science as demonstrated by relevant extracurricular activities.~~]

To remain in good standing in the program [Dean's Scholars Honors Program], students are expected to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.50. Students who do not may be dismissed from the program by the faculty director. [~~must maintain an in residence grade point average of at least 3.25 after 30 hours in residence, of at least 3.40 after 60 hours in residence, and of at least 3.50 after 90 hours in residence. Students who fail to maintain the required grade point average will usually be dismissed from the program. Under special circumstances and at the discretion of the departmental honors adviser, a student may be allowed to continue under academic review.~~]

### **Health Science Scholars Program**

[~~The Health Science Scholars Program is intended for students whose interest in science is focused on clinical careers and healthcare practice or policy. Health Science Scholars pursue a Bachelor of Science and Arts honors degree and complete a major in a field of study within the College of Natural Sciences, as well as an interdisciplinary minor which complements their scientific interest and prepares them for health professions, policy, or business. Students complete a departmental honors thesis, or a health-related internship/practicum and a thesis that synthesizes and analyzes scholarly literature related to the internship/practicum.~~]

Health Science Scholars is a four-year honors degree program for exceptional students who are interested in the health professions and committed to community service. Students earn a Bachelor of Science and Arts degree with an honors major. An honors option is available in all majors offered under this degree by the College of Natural Sciences.

The key features of the program are a first-semester research methods course; a six-credit-hour requirement in honors-level coursework in one or more science; a substantive health or service-related learning experience or laboratory research, undertaken in the third year; and an honors thesis based on their third-year project, written in the final year.

Application to the Health Science Scholars Program is separate from, and in addition to, application to the University. Application materials and information about deadlines are available on the Health Science Scholars website. Students may enter the program as freshmen or as college transfers prior to their fourth long semester of enrollment at the University.

Factors in the admission decision are the student's high school and/or college grades, class rank, the rigor of the courses the student has taken, the quality of the required application essays, a strong recommendation from a mathematics or science instructor, and the student's interest in science, health and service as demonstrated by extracurricular activities.

To remain in good standing in the program, students are expected to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.50. Students who do not may be dismissed from the program by the faculty director.

### **Polymathic Scholars Program**

[~~The Polymathic Scholars Program is designed for students with a strong interest in the sciences, but who also have strong scholarly interests beyond their major. Polymathic Scholars design an interdisciplinary minor field of study—a field defined by the students' interests and limited only by their ability to engage them as a scholar. The interdisciplinary minor is an opportunity for the student to explore the impacts of their field of study or a completely different field of interest. Polymathic Scholars pursue a Bachelor of Science and Arts honors degree and complete a thesis that synthesizes and analyzes scholarly literature within their field of study.~~]

Polymathic Scholars is a four-year honors degree program for exceptional science majors who have compelling interests or talents beyond the natural sciences and wish to make them part of their undergraduate degree. Students earn a Bachelor of Science and Arts degree with an honors major. An honors option is available in all majors offered under this degree by the College of Natural Sciences.

The key features of the program are a first-semester research methods course; a six-credit-hour requirement in honors-level coursework in one or more science; a multidisciplinary field of study outside the student's major, conceived and designed by the student and including no fewer than four courses; and an honors thesis on a question within that field, written in the final year.

Application to the Polymathic Scholars Program is separate from, and in addition to, application to the University. Application materials and information about deadlines are available on the Polymathic Scholars website. Students may enter the program as freshmen or as college transfers prior to their fourth long semester of enrollment at the University.

Factors in the admission decision are the student's high school and/or college grades, class rank, the rigor of the courses the student has taken, the quality of the required application essays, a strong recommendation from a mathematics or science instructor, and the student's investment in science as well as in one or more areas beyond science, as demonstrated by extracurricular activities.

To remain in good standing in the program, students are expected to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.50. Students who do not may be dismissed from the program by the faculty director.

#### **Turing Scholars in Computer Science**

{no change to this section}

#### **Honors In Advanced Human Development and Family Sciences Program**

{no change to this section}

#### **Honors In Advanced Nutritional Sciences Program**

{no change to this section}

#### **College Honors**

##### **Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

##### **Astronomy Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

##### **Biochemistry Departmental Honors**

Majors who plan to seek special departmental honors in biochemistry should apply to the departmental honors adviser for admission to the honors program no later than the beginning of the senior year. A University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in biochemistry and chemistry of at least 3.50 are required for admission.

The requirements for graduation with special departmental honors are (1) all requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry; (2) two semesters of Biochemistry 379H, *Biochemistry Honors Tutorial Course*; (3) a thesis and a presentation based on research; the research topic and the thesis must be approved by the supervising faculty member and the [~~undergraduate faculty~~] departmental honors adviser; (4) a University

grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in biochemistry and chemistry of at least 3.50; (5) completion at the University of at least sixty ~~[60]~~ semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree; and (6) approval of the honors adviser.

### **Biology Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Chemistry Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Computer Science Departmental Honors**

Students seeking special departmental honors must meet with a faculty adviser at least two semesters before they plan to graduate to discuss potential research topics and the requirements for receiving special departmental honors.

The requirements for graduation with special departmental honors are (1) Computer Science 379H, *Computer Science Honors Thesis*, with a grade of at least B-; (2) a University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in computer science of at least 3.50; (3) a thesis and presentation based on research [~~written on the subject of the student's research~~] and approved [~~in comprehensive examination~~] by [~~a committee consisting of at least~~] three faculty members, including the honors adviser; and (4) completion at the University of at least ~~[60]~~ sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.

### **Human Development and Family Sciences Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Human Ecology Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Mathematics Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Neuroscience Departmental Honors**

Majors who plan to seek special departmental honors in neuroscience should apply to the honors adviser for admission to the honors program no later than the beginning of the senior year. A University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in neuroscience of at least 3.50 are required for admission.

The requirements for graduation with special departmental honors are (1) two semesters of neuroscience research coursework, including Neuroscience 379H, *Honors Tutorial Course*; (2) a thesis based on original research and approved by the supervising faculty member and the honors adviser; (3) a University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in neuroscience of at least 3.50; and (4) completion at the University of at least sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.

### **Nutrition Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

### **Physics Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}



**Public Health Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}

**Textiles and Apparel Departmental Honors**

{no change to this section}