

THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS POLICY ON HONOURS PROGRAMME

Introduction

The College/University of The Bahamas' Honours Programme is an enrichment programme representing The College's/University's commitment to providing a stimulating and challenging academic environment for students of exceptional academic ability. The Honours Programme is designed to offer undergraduate students an enhanced educational experience that includes comparatively smaller class sizes, custom-designed courses, mentoring, enriched individualised learning and hands-on research and publishing opportunities. Like Honours Programmes at other universities, The College/University of The Bahamas' Honours Programme will offer honours seminars and honours sections of select undergraduate courses each semester. In addition, honours students will complete select honours courses in their major field of study. The Programme will also offer students the opportunity to write a senior honours thesis or complete an honours project.

1.0 Programme Goals

The Honours Programme of the College/University of The Bahamas seeks to

- 1.1.1 provide an enriched general education curriculum and opportunities for expanded research in major fields;
- 1.1.2 recruit students who are highly motivated and have strong academic credentials;
- 1.1.3 retain talented students by offering them a strong social support programme and financial aid;
- 1.1.4 prepare students intellectually, socially, culturally and ethically to pursue advanced studies and/or secure productive employment;
- 1.1.5 equip students with a contextual knowledge and with a respect for diversity and ethical awareness that will make them productive and contributing citizens of The Bahamas and the world; and
- 1.1.6 encourage a sense of national pride that acknowledges a responsibility to service.

2.0 Admission Requirements

- 2.1 Incoming freshmen (1st year students) who wish to be considered for the Honours Programme should
 - 2.1.1 have a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.50;
 - 2.1.2 have five BGCSE subjects or equivalent passes including English and Mathematics with "B" grades or higher or have a Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) combined score of 1200 (1800 on the three-section version of the SAT);
 - 2.1.3 submit a letter of recommendation from their high school guidance counsellor;

- 2.1.4 complete a College/University of The Bahamas Honours Programme application form; and
- 2.1.5 complete an interview with the Honours Advisory Board.
- 2.2 Students already enrolled in a bachelor degree programme at The College/University of The Bahamas who wish to be considered for the Honours Programme should
 - 2.2.1 have completed at least 12 but no more than 18 credit hours at The College with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above;
 - 2.2.2 submit two letters of recommendation from two members of faculty familiar with their work;
 - 2.2.3 complete a College/University of The Bahamas Honours Programme application form; and
 - 2.2.4 complete an interview with the Honours Advisory Board.

3.0 Programme Requirements

- 3.1 Students enrolled in the Honours Programme must complete
 - 3.1.1 a minimum of 18 credit hours of General Education Honours courses and Honours seminars at a 100 and 200 level;
 - 3.1.2 a minimum of 9 credit hours of major courses at a 300 and 400 level with Honours Designation;
 - 3.1.3 an Honours thesis or project; and
 - 3.1.4 requirements of the Junior Honours Colloquium as approved by the Academic Board. A Junior Honours Colloquium is conducted the first semester of Junior year (3rd year), is non credited and provides opportunities for Honours students to engage in peer support, service learning and civic education as approved by the Honours Advisory Committee.
- 3.2 To remain in good standing in the Honours Programme, students must
 - 3.2.1 complete a minimum of 30 semester credit hours per academic year;
 - 3.2.2 maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.50;
 - 3.2.3 maintain a minimum of a **B** grade in all Honours courses and/or seminars;
 - 3.2.4 comply with all academic, college or other policies of The College/University of The Bahamas;
 - 3.2.5 attend all Honours Programme activities; and
 - 3.2.6 meet with the Honours Programme Director, or designated member of the Honours Advisory Board, each semester for academic advisement.
- 3.3 Students who fail to meet the above requirements will be withdrawn from the Honours Programme.

4.0 Honours Degree Designation

Students who have successfully completed the requirements of the Honours Programme are eligible to graduate with an Honours Bachelor Degree.

5.0 Honours Programme Advisory Board

- 5.1 Members of the Honours Programme Advisory Board will
 - 5.1.1 make recommendations on curricula matters to the respective Faculty Board;
 - 5.1.2 develop, evaluate and monitor protocols and policies pertaining to the operation and quality of the Honours Programme;
 - 5.1.3 recommend Honours protocol modifications, admissions and dismissal policies and other requirements as may be deemed necessary; and
 - 5.1.4 serve as academic advisors for students enrolled in the Programme.
- 5.2 The Advisory Board will comprise
 - 5.2.1 one full-time faculty member nominated by the Director of the College/University Honours Programme in consultation with the Chair/Unit Head and endorsed by the Deans Council from each of the following academic units
 - 5.2.1.1 School of English Studies;
 - 5.2.1.2 School of Social Sciences;
 - 5.2.1.3 School of Sciences and Technology;
 - 5.2.1.4 School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions;
 - 5.2.1.5 School of Communication and Creative Arts;
 - 5.2.1.6 School of Education;
 - 5.2.1.7 Culinary and Hospitality Management Institute;
 - 5.2.1.8 School of Business; and
 - 5.2.1.9 College/University Library;
 - 5.2.1.10 one representative of Counselling and Health Services
 - 5.2.2 one student enrolled in the Honours Programme
 - 5.2.3 one member of the Deans Council; and
 - 5.2.4 the Director of The College/University Honours Programme (*ex officio* and non-voting member).

6.0 Honours Programme Review Committee

- 6.1 The Honours Programme Review Committee shall conduct an evaluation of the College/University Honours Programme every three years using a subset of programme review criteria appropriate for the Honours Programme as agreed by the Deans Council.
- 6.2 The Honours Programme Review Committee shall comprise
 - 6.2.1 four full-time faculty members from the Advisory Board;
 - 6.2.2 two students enrolled in the Honours Programme;
 - 6.2.3 one member of the Deans Council; and
 - 6.2.4 the Director of the Honours Programme (*ex officio* and non-voting member).