

University of Indianapolis - Strain Honors College

2025-2026 Curriculum Guide for Honors (HON) Concentration

Concentration

To graduate *With Distinction* students must earn an overall GPA of 3.3 or higher and successfully complete **18 total hours** of Honors College credit:

- 1) 12-15 hours of Honors coursework over the course of their freshman, sophomore, and junior years, with no grade lower than a B (3.0) counting toward Honors College credit;
- 2) Complete Honors 400 and 410 (.5 credits each) and have an Honors Project Proposal approved by the Honors College Committee at least one year prior to graduation or entry into a pre- baccalaureate graduate program (e.g., Physical Therapy)
- 3) Successfully completed a 2-5 credit hour Honors Project (HON 490) as a capstone experience, to be approved by the Honors College Committee. *

* Honors College approved capstone overlaps may modify these requirements

NOTE: It is recommended to take a course each semester of your first two years. If you have transfer credits, you should consider selecting honors courses that fill Core Requirements for which you do NOT have credits, such as Global/Local, Religion, Philosophy & Ethics, Wellness, etc. Additionally, note that electives vary from year to year with new additions frequently rotating in.

The following are recommended for YEAR ONE or TWO students

- **ART 110** Honors: Art Appreciation (2)
General Education Requirement: Fine Arts/Theory
- **BIOL 110** Honors: Intro to the Diversity of Life (4) (Lecture, Lab, and Discussion) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: Natural Sciences
- **FYS 110** Honors: Poverty and Wealth in Literature (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Literature
- **FYS 120** Honors: Inequality in History (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & History
- **FYS 120** Honors: World War II: The Home Front (3) (Sem II)
General Education Requirement: FYS & History
- **FYS 130** Honors: Environmental Inequality (3) (Sem I or II)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Natural Sciences
- **FYS 140** Honors: Poverty and Wealth in Politics (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Social Science
- **FYS 140** Honors: Social Inequality (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Social Science
- **FYS 172** Honors: Poverty and Wealth via Theatre (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Fine Arts (Theoretical and Applied)
- **FYS 180** Honors: Poverty and Wealth in Anthropology (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: FYS & Global Awareness
- **INTD 230** Honors: Communiversality (1)
- **KINS 104** Honors: Wellness and Fitness for a Lifetime (2) (Sem I/II)
General Education Requirement: Wellness
- **MUS 111** Honors: Music as Listener (3) (Sem I)
General Education Requirement: Fine Arts/Applied & Theory
- **PHIL 130** Honors: Philosophy (Poverty, Ethics, and Effective Giving) (3)
General Education Requirement: Philosophy & Ethics
- **PHYS 153** Honors: General Physics 1, Calculus Based (4)

General Education Requirement: Natural Sciences

- **PSY 120** Honors: Introduction to Psychology (3) (Sem II)
- **REL 130** Honors: Readings in Christianity (3)

General Education Requirement: Religion

- **SOC 210** Honors: Social Inequality (3)

General Education Requirement: Global Awareness

YEARS TWO, THREE, and FOUR

NOTE: Required (unless a capstone overlap allows an exception)

- **HON 400** Scholarly Exploration (0.5) and
- **HON 410** Honors Project Proposal (0.5) [Students needing to complete the Project in Year III should take HON 400 in Semester I of Year II]
- **HON 490** Honors Project (2-5) [prerequisite: HON 400, HON 410 and permission of Honors College Executive Director]

ELECTIVES: Select remaining credit requirements from among the following options

- **CHEM 161** Honors: General Chemistry II LAB (1)
- **CHEM 261** Honors: Organic Chemistry II LAB (2)
- **CHEM 263** Honors: Spectroscopy LAB (1) [Must be enrolled concurrently enrolled in CHEM 261]
- **CHEM 310** Honors: Analytical Chemistry LAB (2)
- **CHEM 327** Honors: Analytical Investigative Laboratory (1) [Must be concurrently enrolled in CHEM 310]
- **ESCI 206** Honors: Time, Trilobites and Tyrannosaurus Rex (3) *

General Education Requirement: Natural Science

- **HON 203** Seminar in Ethics (3)

General Education Requirement: Philosophy & Ethics

- **HON 245** Presidential Leadership Development (0.5) [Restricted to Presidential Scholars] (Sem II)
- **HON 480** Honors: Special Topics (1-3)
- **LANG 324** Honors: Literature in Translation (3) *

General Education Requirement: Literature/WS

- **MUS 222** Honors: Music Theory (2)
- **MUS 235** Honors: Music Theory (2)
- **MUS 236** Honors: Music Form and Analysis (2)
- **NURE 319** Honors: Power and Inequity in Healthcare (3)
- **PHYS 163** Honors: General Physics II, Calculus-based (4)
- **PSY 245** Honors: Lifespan Development (3) *
- **PSY 345** Honors: Abnormal Psychology (3) *
- **SOCS 200** Human Complexity (3) *

* These classes may not be offered on a regular basis.

HONORS OPTION COURSES

You may elect to take up to 6 credit hours in honors option coursework. Students must have earned at least 30 credit hours with a GPA of 3.3 or higher to qualify. Honors Option affords students the opportunity to develop original work that explores innovative connections, the synthesis of ideas, in-depth analysis or creative expression beyond that offered in a standard course. Generally, Honors Option is reserved for courses within the candidate's major or minor area of study. The student consults with her/his course professor after registration to develop the Honors Option proposal and then submits an application proposal to the Executive Director of the Strain Honors College. Proposals are to be submitted prior to the start of the semester in which the Honors Option course is to be taken. Upon review and approval by the Honors College Committee, the Executive Director of Honors College will notify the Registrar and Honors Student of the Committee's decision regarding the proposal.

CAPSTONE OVERLAP

Because most majors have a capstone in their major requirements, the Honors College has sought out partnerships with different departments on campus to allow overlap wherever possible. The following list briefly explains where and how those partnerships impact a student in the course of their studies. Though a student may be able to take advantage of these capstone overlaps, they are optional. More partnerships are also on the way.

* Note that each of these capstone overlaps is summarized below on a 4-year scale based on the average student. If you are graduating early, you can shift the timeline back one or two semesters. Additionally, it may be possible to flexibly employ some of these hours, especially the HON 490, to meet your scheduling conflicts. All majors with capstone overlap usually intend the overlap to reflect work within the discipline. Capstone overlap hours typically come to no more than 5 total hours with HON 490. Please consult with the Executive Director of Honors during advising to address any questions or issues.

Anthropology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I ANTH 382 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Anthropology, the ANTH-382 Research Experience serves as the capstone overlap with honors, so that you can work on the honors project within the ANTH-382 course and receive honors credit.

Archaeology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 - Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (2-3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (3-2)

In Archaeology, the HON 490 honors project hours may replace the ANTH 382 research credits required for completion of the archaeology major. Students are entitled to up to 5 total HON 490 credit hour.

Art (Studio Art) Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I ART 471 (2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-3)

In Art, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the ART 471 Senior Thesis course and receive honors credit. This capstone overlap applies to both students graduating with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

Biology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-3) BIOL 496 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-3)

In Biology, the HON 490 honors project hours count as the basis for the research component within the research experience requirement for the biology capstone. Students must also take BIOL 496: Research Capstone Experience (1 credit hour).

Computer Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap below

Computer Science Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap below

Criminal Justice Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (2)

In Criminal Justice, students can work on their honors project in place of the Criminal Justice Capstone. Students will take 5 HON 490 hours over the final year and be exempt from CRIM 440 “Criminal Justice Capstone.” Requires approval of the department chair in Criminal Justice.

Electrical Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap below

Engineering Capstone Overlap in conjunction with Design Spine (option 1)

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1) ENGR 496 (1) **OR** CSCI 496 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (2) ENGR 498 (2) **OR** CSCI 498 (2)

During junior year while taking HON 400 and HON 410, the honors student (with assistant of faculty mentor) will find and identify a project for a DesignSpine (DS) team to work on. Student will need Engineering faculty to approve that the project is suitable for a 496/498 project before submitting the honors thesis proposal. The honors student will then need to propose and carve out an honors research project that is associated with the DS project, following the processes outlined in HON 410. This honors project will complement the DS project but will be in addition to the 496/498 project. For example, an honors student will need to individually conduct research (test, experiments, etc.) that can help compliment or add to the design process, validation, and/or optimization. The honors student will execute the project in conjunction with ENGR 496/498 or CSCI 496/498, and will need to write a separate honors thesis individually on the honors research (experiments and results). The DS project will need to follow all guidelines of the 496/498 course sequence.

Engineering Capstone Overlap in Independent Research (option 2)

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1) ENGR 450 (1-3) **OR** CSCI 492 (1-3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1) ENGR 450 (1-3) **OR** CSCI 492 (1-3)

In Engineering, ENGR-450 Engineering Research (or CSCI 492 - Research in Computer Science) can serve as a capstone overlap with honors, so that you can work on the honors project within the ENGR-450 (or CSCI 492) course and receive honors credit. Students can receive up to 3 credit hours of honor overlap with ENGR 450 (or CSCI 492).

English Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I ENGL 495 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In English, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the ENGL 495 English Capstone course and receive honors credit.

Exercise Science Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II KINS 425 (1) HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I KINS 425 (1) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II KINS 425 (1) HON 490 (1)

In Exercise Science, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the KINS 425 “Research KINS, Health, Sport” and claim up to 3 credit hours of honors coursework. This is the recommended course of credit distribution, but it is possible to adjust the distribution with faculty advisor approval.

General Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap above

History Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HIST 475 (4)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1)

In History, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the HIST 475 Seminar in Historiography course and receive honors credit. Requires approval of the department chair in History and Political Science.

Human Biology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-3) BIOL 496 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-3)

In Human Biology, the HON 490 honors project hours count as the basis for the research component within the research experience requirement for the human biology capstone. Students must also take BIOL 496: Research Capstone Experience (1 credit hour).

Industrial and Systems Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap above

International Relations Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I IREL 476 (1) HON 490 (1-2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-3)

In International Relations, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the IREL 476 International Relations Capstone course and receive honors credit. Requires approval of the department chair in History and Political Science.

Mechanical Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap above

Music Capstone Overlap for Performance Project

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I MUS 150 (1) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II MUS 150 (1) MUS 450 (1) HON 490 (1)

In Music with an honors project emphasizing performance, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the MUS 150 Performance Discipline in their senior year and receive honors credit. Additionally, students can work on their honors project within the MUS 450 Senior Capstone in Music and receive honors credit.

Music Capstone Overlap for Music Technology Project

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I MUS 427 (2) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II MUS 428 (1) HON 490 (1)

In Music with an honors project emphasizing music technology, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the MUS 427 Advanced Editing Techniques in their senior year and receive honors credit. Additionally, students can work on their honors project within the MUS 428 Music Technology Capstone Project and receive honors credit.

Music Capstone Overlap for Music Composition Project

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I MUS 346 (1) MUS 150 (1) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II MUS 346 (1) HON 490 (1)

In Music with an honors project emphasizing music composition, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the MUS 346 Applied Composition in their senior year and receive honors credit. Additionally, students can work on their honors project within the MUS 150 Performance Discipline (in either Sem I or Sem II) and receive honors credit. HON 490 hours are flexible.

Music Therapy Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II MUS 404 (2) Research/Psychology of Music
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-2.5) **And/or** MUS 474 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2.5) **And/or** MUS 475 (1)

In the Music Therapy Capstone overlap, students can work on their honors proposal in MUS 404 “Research/Psychology of Music” as the primary capstone overlap (which results in the student not taking HON 410, the requirement having been waived by the Honors College). In the final year, students are entitled to 3.5 remaining project hours, with most of these occurring through HON 490 Honors Project Hours. If a student’s project is such that it can be embedded with a practicum experience (subject to approval by the advisor and the Field and Clinical Placement Coordinator), then the student may take 1 credit hour of additional capstone overlap in either MUS 474 or MUS 475. The total hours of the project process shall not exceed 6 credit hour.

Nursing Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II NURB 330 (3) HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1)

In Nursing, students can work on their honors proposal within the NURB 330 Nursing Research Methods course and receive honors credit.

Political Science Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I PSCI 475 (1) HON 490 (1-2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-3)

In Political Science, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the PSCI 475 Political Science Capstone course and receive honors credit. Requires approval of the department chair in History and Political Science.

Public Health Capstone Overlap for Community-based Projects

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I KINS 465 (2) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II KINS 495 (3) HON 490 (1)

In Public Health with an honors project emphasizing community-based research, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the KINS 495 Field Experience in Public Health and claim up to 3 credit hours of honors coursework. Additionally, students can work with the community organization where they will conduct the research in Sem I with the KINS 465 course, though no direct honors credit will be given.

Public Health Capstone Overlap for Research Projects

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I KINS 425 (2) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. II KINS 425 (1) HON 490 (1)

In Public Health with an honors project emphasizing traditional public health research, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the KINS 425 Research KINS, Health, Sport and claim up to 3 credit hours of honors coursework.

Public Health Capstone Overlap (4+1 Master's Degree)

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 3 – Summer MPH 582 (2) HON 490 (1)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Public Health for students obtaining a Master's Degree in the 4+1 program, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the MPH 582 Special Topics course and claim 2 credit hours of honors coursework. There is also space designed in your schedule in year 4 to claim HON 490 credit hours.

Psychology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II PSY 400-WS (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Psychology, students can work on their honors proposal in the PSY 400-WS Writing and Professional Development in Psychology course and receive honors credit.

Psychology Capstone Overlap (4+1 Master's Degree)

- Year 2 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 2 – Sem. II PSY 400-WS (3)
- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 490 (1-2)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Psychology, students can work on their honors proposal in the PSY 400-WS Writing and Professional Development in Psychology course and receive honors credit.

Social Work Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I SOWK 460 (3) **OR** HON 490 (2)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (2) **OR** SOWK 460 (3)

In Social Work 460 “Capstone Seminar in Social Work,” the student will work with the instructor to embed some of the honors project work within the class to reduce the student’s overall workload between the honors project and SOWK 460 class. SOWK 460 can be scheduled flexibly in the last year of the student’s degree.

Sociology Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I SOC 440 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Sociology, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the SOC 440 Senior Seminar course and receive honors credit.

Sociology Capstone Overlap (4+1 Master’s Degree)

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5) SOC 530 (3)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I SOC 440 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Sociology, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the SOC 440 Senior Seminar course and receive honors credit. Additionally, students should take SOC 530 Introduction to Social Research in Year 3 semester I, in order to obtain appropriate sociology research skills. In an ideal situation, students will use the honors project as a foundation for constructing their master’s thesis.

Software Engineering Capstone Overlap

See Engineering Capstone Overlap above

Visual Communication Design Capstone Overlap

- Year 3 – Sem. I HON 400 (.5)
- Year 3 – Sem. II HON 410 (.5)
- Year 4 – Sem. I DSGN 431 (3)
- Year 4 – Sem. II HON 490 (1-2)

In Visual Communication Design, students can work on their honors project as a capstone project within the DSGN 431 Senior Design Studio course and receive honors credit.

REMEMBER: If you have any questions about the Honors Program and its requirements, contact Dr. James Williams, Executive Director of the Strain Honors College (williamsjb@uindy.edu).