“Old” Honors College Graduation Requirements
for students who entered the UMKC Honors College before January 2016

NOTE: The following “Old” Graduation Requirements are only in effect for those students who entered the Honors College before January 2016. Students who entered the Honors College after January 2016 must complete the current Honors College graduation requirements, available on the Honors College website. All Honors College students may choose to complete the current graduation requirements; please meet with the Honors College Advisor if you’d like to do so.

Honors College Requirements (for students who entered the Honors College before January 2016)

• First-year honors students were formerly required to enroll in Honors 100, First-Year Seminar, in their first fall semester at UMKC. This course is no longer required.

• All honors students were formerly required to enroll in Honors Colloquium (one academic credit, every fall and spring semester). This course is no longer offered, but students will still receive one honors credit hour for every semester of Honors Colloquium that they successfully completed.

• Students must maintain a 3.2 GPA to remain in good standing in the Honors College.

University Honors Requirements

• To graduate with University Honors, students must complete 28 honors credits.

• The total number of honors credits required to graduate with University Honors is reduced for students who join the Honors College after completing at least one full year of coursework at UMKC or another university or college, as follows:
  o If you enter the Honors College with more than 25 academic credits, you must complete 25 honors credits to graduate with University Honors.
  o If you enter the Honors College with more than 50 academic credits, you must complete 21 honors credits to graduate with University Honors.

• A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.2 is required to graduate with University Honors.

Honors Scholar Requirements

• To graduate as an Honors Scholar, students must complete a six-credit Senior Honors Thesis or Project in addition to the requirements noted above.

• If you have completed the requirements for the Honors College and the Senior Honors Thesis, you will graduate not only with University Honors but also as an Honors Scholar. Both notations will appear on your transcript and on your diploma.

• The six-credit Senior Honors Thesis course sequence may be included in the total number of credits required to graduate with University Honors.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Rationale for the Current Honors College Curriculum

Q: Why did the Honors College establish a new curriculum in 2016?
A: The UMKC Honors College was created at the recommendation of a university-wide task force that envisioned a much broader and richer honors curriculum. The current graduation requirements follow the recommendations of that task force. Our intention is to give students a rich variety of options to fulfill their honors requirements, making the honors curriculum flexible, engaging, and fully responsive to the needs and interests of individual students of all majors.

Opting Into the Current Honors College Graduation Requirements

Q: Do I have to complete the current requirements, or can I complete the old requirements?
A: Students who entered the Honors College after January 2016 must complete the current graduation requirements. The basic principle involved is that a student can graduate under the requirements that existed when they first enrolled in the Honors College (or its predecessor, the Honors Program). Specifically:

- Students who entered the Honors College in January 2016 (or later) must complete the current Honors College graduation requirements.
- Students who entered the Honors College before 2016 can complete the old graduation requirements, or they can opt into the current requirements.

Q: Are there any specific benefits to opting into the current Honors College curriculum (i.e. certain courses or opportunities offered only to students in the current program)?
A: Yes, the current Honors College curriculum offers certain honors course options that were not previously available, and is generally a lot more flexible for honors students of all majors.

Q: I joined the honors College before January 2016. How can I opt into the current Honors College requirements?
A: This is an important decision for those students who entered the Honors College before January 2016. Think it over carefully and consult with the Honors College Advisor or an Honors Ambassador to discuss which option makes best sense for you. Once you have made your decision, please meet with the Honors College Advisor if you wish to opt into the current requirements. This meeting will enable you to inventory your honors coursework and map out a plan to complete the current graduation requirements.

No action is needed if a student who joined the Honors College before January 2016 decides to complete the old graduation requirements.
**Meeting the Honors Colloquium Requirement**

**Q:** If I choose to stay with the old graduation requirements, how can I fulfill the Honors Colloquium requirement?

**A:** Honors Colloquium is no longer offered, and therefore it is no longer required. Instead, students can enroll in any other available honors courses to complete their required honors credits. Those students who choose to complete the old graduation requirements will still need to complete 28 honors credits to earn the University Honors distinction.

**Q:** Will service activities that formerly counted as a Colloquium make-up (e.g. volunteering for Lucerna or at the Kauffman School) continue to count toward the Colloquium requirement?

**A:** Honors Colloquium is no longer offered, and so the Colloquium make-up opportunities are no longer needed. However, honors students are encouraged to volunteer for Lucerna and other service activities, and students can earn honors course credit for these kinds of activities through the Honors Internship course (Honors 496). Contact the Honors College for further information about the Honors Internship.

**Fulfilling the Honors College Graduation Requirements**

**Q:** Can I mix and match different parts of the old and current requirements?

**A:** No. A student must fulfill all of the old requirements, or all of the current requirements.

**Next Steps**

**Q:** What is the best way to complete the Honors College graduation requirements?

**A:** Students who entered the Honors College before January 2016 may choose to complete the “old” graduation requirements, but they are also welcome to complete the current requirements. Please meet with the Honors College Advisor if you wish to opt into the current requirements. This meeting will enable you to inventory your honors coursework and map out a plan to complete the current Honors College graduation requirements.

**Q:** Is this decision irrevocable?

**A:** No, you can always change your mind later. If you do change your decision in the future, please keep the Honors College informed, so that we can accurately track your graduation requirements. We recommend that you meet with the Honors College Advisor before making any change in your graduation requirements.