College of Engineering Honors Track

The College of Engineering has requested an alternate plan of courses to allow Honors students to satisfy the requirements for an academic honors designation once they enter their junior and senior years in the College.

Students working toward a Bachelors degree in Engineering with Honors will complete the following courses and requirements.

Sophomore Year in Honors or Incoming Transfer Students: Attend “Bridge” Advising Session or Individual Advising to learn about Junior and Senior year requirements.

Junior Year:
- HON 491 – Junior Seminar OR a Graduate-level 6XX in Engineering
  - waived if the student is in the Four Year Honors Program

- Submission of a 10-12 page (minimum) Honors Thesis or Portfolio proposal, accompanied by a signed proposal/mentor form
  - Making the choice between a Portfolio or Thesis Honors project should be done in consultation with the student’s faculty mentor and the Honors Director
  - Students are encouraged to take a course to write this proposal with supervision, or work closely with a faculty mentor.
    - HON 495 – Introduction to Research
    - HON 499—Directed Reading with Honors Director for Honors Portfolio Option

Senior Year Honors Project: Portfolio or Thesis?
PORTFOLIO OPTION
In lieu of the 6 credit/2 semester HON 496 requirement, Engineering Honors track majors take the following courses, depending on their department, to work on the project that will be the foundation for their Senior Honors Project. Through consultation with their faculty mentors, students may build an Honors Portfolio project using the courses below as the foundation.

Civil and Environmental Engineering
CEE 490 – Senior Design Project
HON 496 – Senior Honors Project

Electrical Engineering/Computer Engineering
EE 496 – Capstone Design Project
EE 496 – Capstone Design Project OR HON 496 – Senior Honors Project

Mechanical Engineering
ME 481 – Design Project I
ME 482 – Design Project II
In addition to student work on senior design projects, they may also include the following kinds of work to their Honors Portfolio.

- Participation in a national competition for the design
- A patent disclosure on the design with the approval of the instructor, Chair, and Dean
- Submission or presentation of a conference paper on the design
- Participation in the UH Business Plan competition based on the design, which is sponsored by the Shidler College of Business PACE Program

**THESIS OPTION:** Alternatively, students can opt to do a separate Honors Thesis option, which allows them to explore a separate topic in their major under the supervision of a faculty mentor. This looks more like a classic, sustained paper. Students typically take 6 credits worth of **499** courses in their major with their advisor or **HON 496** (or a combination) to conduct the work for a Senior Thesis Project.

**HON 494** (zero credits) is required for all Honors students upon submission of their Senior Honors Project proposal. Ideally this is taken the semester they begin their work on the Senior Honors Project.

As part of the requirements, students must give an oral presentation of their Senior Honors Project at the Undergraduate Showcase.