



John  
Pappajohn  
Entrepreneurial  
Center

## Honors in Enterprise Leadership: Frequently Asked Questions

*For further information on University Honors, please visit the Honors Program website.*

### Why Honors

**1. *What is the benefit of an honors designation on my transcript?***

Honors designation shows employers and graduate admissions committees that you were both successful in your coursework and interested in going above and beyond usual graduation requirements to distinguish yourself. It is evidence of an ability to research, write, work collaboratively with a faculty member, present research and findings to the public, and achieve a goal. It gives you talking points in an interview and gives you the chance to work closely with a faculty member, which can lead to a letter of reference that provides detail on your strengths and abilities.

**2. *Is honors listed on my diploma?***

Yes. Honors is listed on both your official transcript and your diploma. If you pursue Honors in the Major, your diploma will state “with Honors in Enterprise Leadership” under the description of your BA. If you pursued both University Honors and Honors in the Major, your diploma will state “With University Honors and Honors in Enterprise Leadership.”

### Getting Help

**1. *Who in Enterprise Leadership can help me with pursuing Honors in the Major?***

Robert B. Walker, Ph. D.  
Lecturer, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center  
Henry B. Tippie College of Business  
The University of Iowa  
Office: 319-335-0947  
Mobile: 319-330-5326  
[bob-walker@uiowa.edu](mailto:bob-walker@uiowa.edu)  
[www.iowajpec.org](http://www.iowajpec.org)

**2. *How do I make an appointment to get help?***

Please email Bob Walker to ask your questions or set up an appointment.

### Admission to Honors in the Major

**1. How do I know if I'm eligible to pursue Honors in Enterprise Leadership?**

There are no eligibility criteria to begin pursuing Honors in the Major. You should have an interest in research in your field of study and the willingness to dedicate time to working with a faculty member to complete a significant project, usually in your final year of undergraduate study.

To graduate with Honors in the Major, you do need to achieve a cumulative and major GPA of 3.5, in addition to completing the thesis and presenting it at the Honors Program Undergraduate Research Festival in the spring or fall.

**2. When should I submit my interest form?**

As soon as possible. Submitting the form is not a commitment to complete the project but rather an indication that you would like to pursue the opportunity. The form can be submitted at:

[iowajpec.org/honors-major-enterprise-leadership](http://iowajpec.org/honors-major-enterprise-leadership)

**3. What happens after I submit my interest form?**

You will be contacted by Bob Walker to set up an advising meeting. In that meeting, we will discuss your research interests and possible faculty members to serve as an advisor for your project.

**Timeline for Honors in the Major**

1. What does the timeline look like for pursuing Honors in the Major?

[see timeline below]

2. Is there a point at which I am too late to pursue Honors in the Major?

We recommend that you have at least two semesters remaining to complete your honors thesis. It is generally not advisable to try to complete the project in one semester.

**Your Thesis Advisor**

**1. Who is my Thesis Advisor?**

Bob Walker will be advising all Enterprise Leadership Honors Theses. Please contact him as soon as you know you would like to pursue honors in Enterprise Leadership.

**2. How often should I meet with my Thesis Advisor?**

You and your Thesis Advisor are welcome to come to any arrangement that is workable for you both, and every partnership varies. However, we generally recommend that students and advisors plan to meet [4-5 times in the semester] in which the research is being planned and the thesis question is being formed, and [at least 4-5 times] in the semester in which the thesis is being written.

## Your Thesis

### **1. What are the basic requirements for a satisfactory thesis?**

The look of a thesis varies greatly, depending on the field of study, type of research, and question being answered. In general, thesis range from 12 – 40 pages and usually include components such as the following:

- Abstract or introduction
- Background to the issue
- Literature review
- Explanation of data being used
- Method of research
- Results of the research
- Conclusion/Opportunities for further research
- Tables/charts
- Bibliography

### **2. Can I see examples?**

Yes. Prior theses are collected on a OneDrive folder maintained by Bob Walker. Please contact him to request access to this folder.

### **3. Do I earn credit for working on my thesis?**

Yes. In your final semester of the project, you will enroll in a 3-hour course in Enterprise Leadership, numbered ENTR:4999.

### **4. Is thesis credit graded?**

Yes. ENTR:4999 course is graded.

## Graduation Requirements

### **1. When is my thesis due?**

The thesis is due on the Wednesday of finals week in the semester in which you are enrolled in ENTR:4999.

### **2. Do I need to complete any paperwork?**

If you are solely seeking Honors in Enterprise Leadership, there are two submission requirements:

- a. Download, complete, and submit the Honors  
<https://honors.uiowa.edu/file/1830/download?token=VBprzm0T> during the semester in which you are enrolled in ENTR:4999.

- b. Submit your thesis by email to Bob Walker by the Wednesday of finals week in semester in which you are enrolled in ENTR:4999.

If you are seeking University Honors and Honors in the Major, you must also follow the [procedures established by the Honors Program](#).

**3. *Do I need to present my research in public?***

Yes. To graduate with Honors in Enterprise Leadership, you will prepare a poster that summarizes your project and will display that poster at the Undergraduate Research Festival and the Hawkeye Innovation Expo. The Festival is held in the fall and spring, and you will participate in the Festival closest to the completion of your thesis. The Hawkeye Innovation Expo is held in the spring. At the Festival and Innovation Expo, you will have the chance to discuss your research with visitors, and you will be judged by a faculty member or graduate student (the judge's results will not have a bearing on your ability to graduate with Honors but can provide helpful feedback in making any final amendments to the thesis). If you complete your honors thesis in the fall AND graduate in the fall, you will only need to present at the Undergraduate Research Festival.

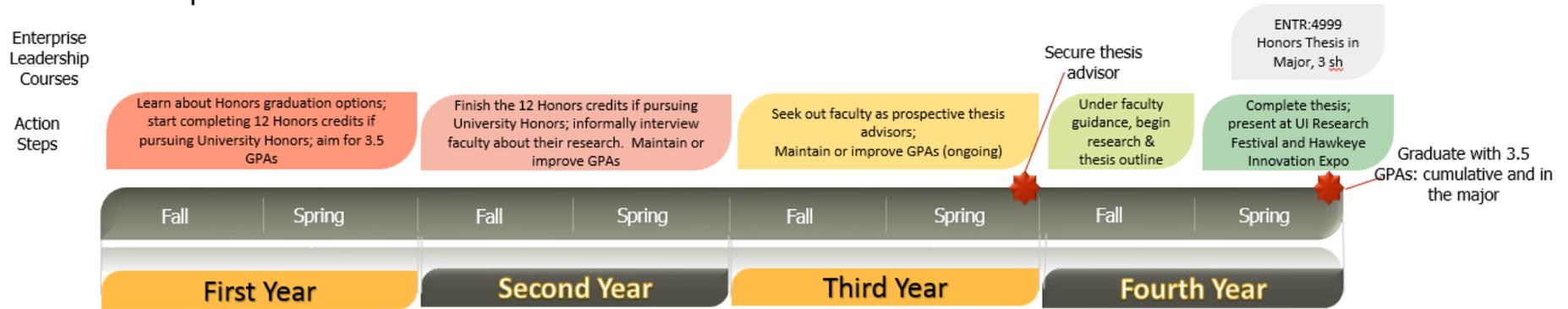
To request pdf examples of previous posters, please contact Bob Walker.

**4. *What if my GPAs have fallen below 3.5. Can I still complete an Honors Thesis but not graduate with Honors in the Major?***

Yes. The ENTR:4999 credit will still be awarded to you if you do not graduate with the 3.5 GPAs required for Honors in the Major. It is still a very valuable opportunity to better understand research in your field and work closely with a faculty member.

## Timeline for Honors in the Major

# Enterprise Leadership Honors in the Major Sample Timeline



*Students who complete 12 Honors credits in their first four semesters and complete requirements for Honors in the Major will graduate with BOTH University Honors and Honors in the Major. See <https://honors.uiowa.edu> for more information on University Honors.*