

The Undergraduate Interdepartmental
Program for Neuroscience presents:

Department Honors Info Session

Monday, October 4, 2021



Benefits of Departmental Honors

- Enables students to "dig beneath the surface", to individually explore particular areas of interest and points of view, and to design and execute special projects.
- Experience for graduate & professional school.
- Notation on your transcript and diploma.

How To Get Started

Who is eligible?

- Upperclassmen who have a 3.0 GPA in the major prep courses & a 3.2 overall GPA.

Step 1: Submit a Departmental Honors application to indicate interest:

- <https://forms.gle/PS2M6oUpqBfSxQnb6>

Step 2: Meet with a Neuroscience Advisor to plan out coursework.

- <http://www.neurosci.ucla.edu/advising.html>

Course Requirements

A student needs to take 2 courses with honors content.

- At least one course needs to be a core class (NEUROSC M101 A/B/C or NEUROSC 102).
- The second can be another core class or upper division major elective.
- These courses must be completed with a grade of "B" or better to receive honors credit.

How to Create an Honors Contract

A Departmental Honors Contract must be completed and submitted to the [CCLE website](#) by Friday of the 3rd week of classes at 4pm.

- Fall 2021, contracts are due **Friday, October 15th**

Form is located on the website: <http://www.neurosci.ucla.edu/departamental-honors.html>

Departmental Honors & College Honors

If you are using a SRP 189HC contract to receive Honors credit for both the College of Letters and Science College Honors Program and Neuroscience departmental honors, please contact the department your elective is housed under (i.e. PhySci, Psych, etc.) to ensure your contract is approved and you are enrolled by Friday of Week 2.

All Neuroscience 189HC contracts are due by Noon of Wednesday (October 6th) of Week 2.

Contracts should be submitted to the [CCLE website](#) for Neuroscience courses or to the department offering the course if not a Neuroscience course. All contracts must be reviewed and approved prior to enrollment.

What should I do for an Honors Contract?

- In consultation with the instructor of the course, consider one of the following ideas for your contract:
 - Supplementation of coursework with independent study, research, surveys, field work, and on-the-scene experience.
 - Presentation of the student's work in class or a part of the class by preparation of a lecture on one of the topics in the course (i.e. TED talk style) or the preparation of audiovisual supportive materials.
 - Students could test new experiments, develop working models or demonstrations, and present them to the class.
 - Form a group which meets regularly to explore current literature and new trends in the field.
 - Attend research meetings or department colloquia or regional or national scholarly meetings or other meetings pertinent to the course.
 - Participate in the Neuroscience Undergraduate Society Journal Club

NUS Journal Club

- The Neuroscience Undergraduate Society (NUS) provides departmental honors students the opportunity to participate in Journal Club for their NEUROSC M101A/M101B/M101C honors contract.
- Journal club meets once a week and students are welcome to receive honors credit for their involvement. Meetings typically begin during week 4, with 2 meetings being offered each week to accommodate students with scheduling conflicts.

Departmental Honors & the Neuroscience Capstone

Students must enroll in a contract research course NEUROSC 198A & NEUROSC 198B for two consecutive quarters.

- Prerequisite: NEUROSC M101A & an SRP 99 in the same lab.
- A thesis is due at the end of NEUROSC 198B and students must present at the Neuroscience Poster Day.

Thesis

- 10+ page paper
- Rated by the student's faculty sponsor and another tenured faculty member.
- No Honors, Honors, Highest Honors

Departmental Honors - NEUROSC 191H

Students are required to enroll in NEUROSC 191H in the **winter quarter** they are completing NEUROSC 198A or NEUROSC 198B.

- This is a seminar class meant to bring the cohort of honors students together.
- Assists students in preparing for the thesis and Neuroscience Poster Day.
- A neuroscience advisor will help you enroll.
- 4 units, Letter Graded.

Departmental Honors - GPA Requirement

For Departmental Honors: 3.2 Overall GPA; 3.4 GPA in the major

(not including the prep) and a rating of at least honors by both readers of the thesis.

For Departmental Highest Honors: 3.5 Overall GPA; 3.7 GPA in the major

(not including the prep) and a rating of highest honors by both readers of the thesis.

Please note departmental honors status will not be determined until after ALL major and degree requirements are completed. Neuroscience advisors will contact you and the Registrar's Office with your status after you graduate.

Common Questions

- When should I start departmental honors?
- What happens if I do not complete an honors contract?
- Can I fulfill more than two honors contracts?
- When does departmental honors show up on my transcript?
- Can I decide to drop departmental honors?

Questions?