

The Undergraduate Interdepartmental
Program for Neuroscience presents:

Departmental Honors Information Session

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.

- <https://www.neurosci.ucla.edu/advising/>

Course Requirements

A student needs to take 2 courses with honors content.

- At least one course needs to be a core class (NEUROSC M101A/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 [Bruin Learn website](https://www.bruinlearn.ucla.edu/) by Friday of the 3rd week of classes at 4 p.m.

- Winter 2023, contracts are due **Friday, January 27th**

Form is located on the website:

<https://www.neurosci.ucla.edu/program/departamental-honors/>

Neuroscience Course Honors Contract
(Use this contract if you are **not** a College Honors Student)

_____/_____/_____ has contracted to
(Student's name) (UID) (E-mail Address)

earn honors credit in _____ during _____.
(Department and Course #) (Quarter/Year)

For honors credit to be granted, the student must complete the course with a grade of "B" or better and complete the following additional honors work (provide specific, detailed information). The additional work is not to be the basis of raising the student's grade in the course.

The terms of the contract are listed below:

(Signature of Student)

(Date)

(Signature of Professor)

(Date)

Departmental Honors & College Honors

If you are using a 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 created in [MyUCLA](#) and due **by Noon of Wednesday (January 18th) of Week 2**. Contracts should be submitted to the Bruin Learn 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 audio-visual 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 or M101C honors contract.
- Meetings typically begin during week 4, with 2 meetings being offered each week to accommodate students with scheduling conflicts.
- Students must attend at least 3 meetings and complete the weekly assignments to fulfill the contract.
- Questions? Contact nusjournalclub@gmail.com

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.
- An honors thesis is due at the end of NEUROSC 198B and students must present at the Neuroscience Poster Day.
- Find all of the details on how to enroll here: <https://www.neurosci.ucla.edu/program/major-capstone/>

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 after your second enrollment pass for winter begins.
- 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?
- Where do I submit my honors contracts?
- 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?