

Honors Program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The Honors Program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB) offers recognition to those students who elect to pursue a program of advanced study and independent work. Students will work closely with departmental faculty and graduate students towards the completion of a seminal project in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Who Qualifies?

Any BMB major who is currently taking or completed BMB 4210, has a minimum 3.5 GPA in their CoSM courses and has obtained a B or better in all of their BMB courses. Students are allowed one semester of BMB Honors Program probation if they fall below these levels. This probation does not apply to the student's final graduating semester.

Transfer Students

For students who have transferred from a different institution, in addition to the above criteria, the completion of at least one full semester at Wright State University prior to your submission of the application is required. Furthermore, an equivalent of BMB 4210 from another institution may qualify to fulfill the above criteria. Finally, the minimum GPA for STEM courses is calculated using courses taken at WSU and other institutions.

When, where and how to apply.

- 1) Obtain an Honors Program Application Form from the BMB department office (162 Diggs) or the BMB Honors Program Director.
- 2) Identify a faculty member who will serve as your mentor/sponsor in the program and help complete the program application.
- 3) Be in good academic and disciplinary standing within the university
- 4) Submit **three (3)** copies of the completed application form to the BMB Honors Program Director or BMB office prior to the opening of registration for the term in which you wish to begin the project.

After review of the application is complete, the project will be: 1) approved, 2) approved with modifications, or 3) denied. **The submission of the Application Form does not guarantee your admission into the Honors Program.**

The Project

The honors project consists of an original research project or scholarly review carried out under supervision of any BMB faculty member. The student may select a faculty member from outside of the BMB Department; however, a co-advisor from within the BMB department is required.

A passing grade in a minimum of 6 and up to a maximum of 12 credit hours of BMB 4950 is required over a period of 2-3 (preferably 3) semesters with a minimum of 3 credit hours per semester. A detailed 3-5 page proposal of the project is due by the end of the first semester. Both the student's faculty sponsor and the Honors Program Director must approve this proposal. The student is subject to dismissal from the program if the proposal is not approved by the beginning of the following semester.

In addition to BMB 4950 credit, students must present their findings in a public format before the conclusion of their final semester at WSU. Students may elect to present at professional conferences, at the various venues on Wright State's campus, or may be eligible to enroll in BMB 8000 and present in this course for graduate credit.

Finally, students must generate an Honors Thesis in a format decided upon by the mentor. For Research Projects, the thesis should be 4000-8000 words (not including references) and should not exceed 50 references. For a scholarly review, the thesis should be 8000-12000 words (not including references).

In summary, to graduate with honors the student must have:

1. A project approved by the faculty sponsor and the Honors Program Director.
2. Approval of their detailed 3-5 page proposal of the project.
3. Completed and passed at least 6 credit hours of BMB 4950.
4. Completed the agreed upon Honors Project and written Honors Thesis.
5. Presented their results in a public format.
6. Maintained a minimum 3.5 GPA in CoSM courses and have a B or better in all of their BMB courses.*
7. Maintained good academic and disciplinary standing with the university.

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