

Honors Opportunities in Chemical Engineering

In addition to the requirements specified by the Barrett Honors College, the Program of Chemical Engineering (CHE) offers honors students several opportunities for honors credit and thesis research.

Honors Course Credit

1. Most courses in the CHE program are offered for honors credit through the honors contract. Students wishing to receive honors credit should confer with the course instructor at the beginning of the semester in order to develop a mutually acceptable plan for the honors contract activity. Most honors contracts involve either a project that extends the ideas and techniques covered in the course or outside research on topics relevant to the course work. Students have the responsibility to apply for the honors contract through the Barrett Honors College. The Honors College contacts the instructor to approve the contract only after the student has initiated the process.
2. Honors students may use CHE 492 Honors Research/CHE 493 Honors Thesis, a maximum of 6 credits total, as Chemical Engineering technical electives with credit towards the BSE degree, if approved by the Program.
3. Honors students may submit requests of overrides for ChE 598, the graduate portion which counts automatically for honors credits, if ChE 494 and ChE 598 are combined into a single course.
4. Non-CHE Honors Section courses are designated by the department offering a specific course. The following courses are closely related to the CHE curriculum and offer Honors Sections: ENG 102, ENG 105, MAT 265, MAT 266, MAT 267, MAT 275, PHY 121/122 and PHY 131/132. In order to receive honors credit, the Honors students would need to enroll in that designated section, with the exception of ENG 105, in which case, it just needs to be an IN-PERSON section.

The Honors Thesis

Students graduating from the Barrett Honors College must complete an honors thesis, which is a document that describes a body of research undertaken by the student. Students should start looking for a research topic and thesis advisor during the second semester of the sophomore year or the first semester of the junior year. The students can enroll in CHE 492 Honors Research and CHE 493 Honors Thesis to fulfill honors thesis as well as Chemical Engineering technical elective credits simultaneously.

Honors students may take advantage of the Fulton Undergraduate Research Initiative, which provides a stipend and a small amount of funding for undergraduate research. Honors students may use their FURI-funded project as their honors research. For more information on the FURI program, please visit the FURI website: <http://www.fulton.asu.edu/fulton/departments/furi>.

Philosophically, the honors thesis should represent a body of work performed independently by the student under the guidance of a mentor (normally a faculty member, but graduate students may act as honors thesis advisors). The honors research MUST be work performed above and beyond the normal coursework required for the BSE degree, and it MUST be work completed individually by the student. The senior capstone design project or other projects done as part of a course are not eligible to be used as the honors research. Students are encouraged to seek out a mentor early so that the honors research can be clearly defined well in advance of the senior year.

