

# UConn | ELISABETH DELUCA SCHOOL OF NURSING

## Honors Student Guidebook

The Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors program seeks to promote academic, research, clinical, and policy excellence. Our goal is to support students involved in honors, encourage an interest in honors among prospective students, and build a community of intellectually engaged students and faculty. As a member of the UConn Honors Program, students will actively participate in academics and co-curricular activities. Students will comply with the [Honors Program requirements](#) according to their year of entry into the program. The School of Nursing has additional requirements for students who want to complete Honors requirements.

**Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors Students are expected to demonstrate the following:**

- ❖ **Self-initiative**
- ❖ **Independence**
- ❖ **Accountability – meet the expected timeline of deliverables, take responsibility for actions or lack thereof.**
- ❖ Awareness of academic and professional responsibilities with the Honors Program
- ❖ Collegiality and respect for others
- ❖ Receptive and responsive to feedback
- ❖ Awareness of and compliance with **deadlines**
- ❖ Adequate and appropriate preparation for class, lab, research, and interviews
- ❖ **Routine and recurrent communication** with Honors academic advisors about achievements or challenges in academics and research
- ❖ **Consistent and well-documented exploration of academic research, outreach, leadership, mentorship, and career pathways—initiated early and supported by UConn and other available resources.**
- ❖ Engagement in the major as agreed upon by the student and Honors academic advisor
- ❖ Adherence to all federal, state, University, Department, and programmatic regulations and guidelines for confidentiality and safety

### UConn Honors Requirements:

- ❖ Continuation in Honors
  - *First-year students:* Take [UNIV 1784](#) in first semester.
  - Academic participation: Earn **6 Honors credits each academic year** to remain active in the program. [Honors credits](#) may be earned through Honors courses, [Honors conversions](#), or graduate courses.
  - Minimum GPA: For all academic levels, a cumulative GPA of 3.400 at the end of the academic year is required to be in “good standing” with Honors. The minimum GPA required to remain in Honors starts at 3.000 at the end of the first year and increases each year thereafter.
  - Honors Plan: Due fall of junior year.
  - UConn Student Code
- ❖ Graduation

### Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors Requirements

- ❖ **Continuation in Honors:** Actively participate in regularly scheduled advising appointments.
- ❖ **Graduation:** Minimum of twelve credits at 2000-level or higher **within the Elisabeth DeLuca SON**, the following courses are options NURS 3205, NURS 3225, NURS 4299, NURS 4230W, 4597W.

## **Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors Timeline**

- SON Honors courses are highlighted in **bold purple font** and include the NURS subject code.
- Suggestions for completing [University Honors Laureate](#) as a Nursing major are in *dark blue italic font* and are prefixed with “UHL.”

### **Fall of your first year:**

- Register for UNIV 1784 (1 credit).
- Earn 3 Honors credits (in any subject).  
*UHL: Look for courses that will meet any of the distribution requirements **other than STEM**.*
- Review the honors thesis timeline <https://honors.uconn.edu/thesis-project/timeline/>
- UHL: Attend and reflect upon at least 5 Honors events*

### **Spring of your first year:**

- Earn 3 Honors credits (in any subject).  
*UHL: Look for courses that will meet any of the distribution requirements **other than STEM**. Try to complete your Honors Core course in your first year.*
- Select who you would like to be your faculty advisor. For a list of faculty and their research interests <https://nursing.uconn.edu/contact-us/faculty-directory/>, then click on Areas of Expertise and select the area that is of most interest. Once you have identified a potential advisor, schedule a meeting with Dr. Casavant
- UHL: Take an additional Honors course this semester or next Fall.*
- UHL: Complete the Events co-curricular component*

### **Fall of your second year:**

- Last chance to choose a faculty advisor. If you do not select an advisor by the end of the semester, one will be assigned to you, and you will work on their research topic.
- Earn 3 Honors credits (in any subject).  
  
*UHL: Try to have all distribution requirements except for STEM completed by this point.*

### **Spring of your second year:**

- Earn 3 Honors credits (in any subject).
- UHL: Leadership Experience: <https://honors.uconn.edu/leadership/>  
<https://honors.uconn.edu/leadership/>*

### **Fall of your third year:**

- NURS 3205 Nursing Research/Evidence-Based Practice, Honors section** (3 Honors credits).
- Submit [Honors Preliminary Plan of Study](#) (Nov).

### **Spring of your third year:**

- NURS 3225 Ethics, Honors section** (3 Honors credits).
- Convert **NURS 4299** with your honors advisor (3 Honors credits). Meet the objectives of the Learning agreement for that semester. This can be done in Spring of third year or Fall of fourth year.
- Submit *Honors Research Draft* to your advisor for review and approval by the end of the fourth week of the spring semester of the third year in nursing (year prior to anticipated graduation).

### **Fall of your fourth year**

**NURS 4230W Evidence-Based Practice/Quality Improvement Honors discussion section** (3 Honors credits).

- Convert **NURS 4299** with your honors advisor (3 Honors credits). Meet the objectives of the Learning agreement for that semester.
- Submit [Honors Final Plan of Study](#) (Dec)

**Spring of your fourth year:**

- NURS4597W Senior Thesis in Nursing** with your honors advisor (3 Honors credits).
- Submit [Honors Thesis Plan](#) (Feb)
- Complete and [submit your honors thesis](#) (May)
- Participate in a minimum of **20 hours of co-curricular Engagement** in the Major activities related to a career in health. Seniors will present their research in an Honors Scholar Reception, and participation is required for all honors students. Submit the Engagement in the Major form by the end of the fourth week of their final semester  
*UHL: [Submit your Honors Scholar Reception experience for your Academics in Action co-curricular component.](#)*

Workshops to attend:

- Attend two separate [Office of Undergraduate Research](#) workshops or information sessions before the conclusion of the second year on campus. Third-year admits will attend sessions during their first semester in Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors.
- Register with [UConn Career Center's Husky Mentor Network](#) at anytime, but no later than the third year.
- Register with [UConn Career Center's Husky Career Link](#) in the second or third year.
- Attend workshop or complete "[Graduate School Preparation](#)" from the Center for Career Development On-Demand Video Learning no later than end of junior year.

**Dates listed for traditional May grad. See links for details**

Junior Year: [Preliminary Plan of Study | UConn Honors Program](#)

- Honors preliminary plan of study submitted in Quest (Nov)

Senior Year: [Honors Scholar Graduation Forms | UConn Honors Program](#)

- Honors Program Final Plan of study submitted in Quest (Dec)
- Honors program Thesis plan in Quali (Feb)
- Final Thesis Approval in Quali (May)

**Honors Advisor:** Serve as both Academic Advisor and Thesis Supervisor

### **Academic Advisor**

- Provide guidance about the UConn honors requirements and Elisabeth DeLuca SON requirements.
- Provides major-related advice, including course selection, career or graduate school plans.
- Guides research or clinical opportunities for students' honors projects.
- Provides guidance for Engagement in the Major activities.
- In Quest, approves course conversions and Preliminary and Final Plan of Study.
- Procedural approval of Honors Thesis in accordance with University Honors requirements.
- Serves as liaison between the student and the Honors Progression Committee.
- Approves Honors Research Draft and other major-related Honors requirements, including the thesis.

### **Thesis Supervisor**

- Serves as an important mentor for the process of completing thesis research and writing.
- Assists in establishing professional connections for future work or academic study.
- Works with the student to develop an Honors Research Draft.
- Works with the student to develop a Learning Agreement for Honors Project and Thesis writing (NURS4299 Independent Study).
- Works with the student to finalize the Honors Research Plan.
- Consults with Honors Advisor/Thesis Instructor as needed to understand departmental thesis standards, processes, and procedures.
- Reviews and evaluates thesis; approves if satisfactory.

### **Honors Thesis Instructor** (*if applicable*)

Serves as Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing liaison to the Thesis Supervisor who is not a UConn undergraduate faculty (such as UConn Health and Connecticut Children's Medical Center, CCMC)

- Advise the student on departmental thesis standards, processes, and procedures.
- Review and approve the Learning Agreement.
- Review and evaluate thesis; approve if satisfactory.

### **Honors Progression Committee**

- Serves as an advisory group for Elisabeth DeLuca SON Honors Program

### **Useful Links:**

[UConn Honors Program](#)

[Office of Undergraduate Research](#)