

Honors Program in Geology

Qualified students may apply to participate in the upper-division honors track in the Geology program for both the B.A. and B.S. degrees. The honors program recognizes research accomplishments of talented undergraduates. Students normally begin the program in their sophomore or junior year and conduct independent research under the supervision of a mentor during their junior and senior years.

To enter the program, students must have:

1. A minimum of 9 credits in geology courses with GLY prefixes;
2. Geology Core courses and cumulative overall GPA of at least 3.3, which must be maintained to remain in the program. The GPA will be monitored throughout student's study in the honors program. A grace period of one semester should be extended to those dropping below this specified GPA.
3. Student must formally apply for the honors program with a letter addressed to the honors committee. The application and overall GPA will be assessed by an appointed faculty committee.
4. The support of a faculty mentor. Interested students should contact the faculty member whose research interests are closest to those the student wishes to pursue.
5. Complete an honors contract with their faculty mentor, which is a joint commitment between the student and mentor that the projects will be conducted at the honors level.

To be awarded the Honors in geology designation, students must:

1. Complete all requirements for the B.A. or B.S. in Geology;
2. Complete 2 credits of: GEO 4920, Geosciences Colloquium Series (1 credit, repeated twice), which is an honors-specific course.

In the Honors Colloquium course, students are exposed to talks from prominent researchers and professionals in the various subfields of the geosciences, introducing them to current important research themes, as well as reinforcing the scientific method and appropriate methodologies for problem solving in the geosciences. Speakers change every semester

3. Complete four credits selected from:

GEO 4948C, Field Experience (1 - 4 credits total);

GLY 4905, Directed Independent Study (1 - 4 credits total);

Students should consult with their faculty mentor to determine whether they should enroll in Field Experience or Directed Independent Study

credits for the preliminary portions (data collection, model development, method development, etc.) of their research projects. While working in the analysis and write-up portions of their research projects, students should enroll in Directed Independent Study credits.

4. Meet a capstone requirement, which entails presenting research findings from the independent research in both a written thesis as well as an oral presentation at the Geosciences Colloquium Series or an appropriate academic conference, including FAU undergraduate research day approved by both the faculty mentor and the department chair;

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>Department Chair: <i>Russell Ory</i></p> <p>College Curriculum Chair: <i>J E Hardy</i></p> <p>College Dean: <i>Chris Gorman</i></p> <p>UUPC Chair: <i>J E Hardy</i></p> <p>Undergraduate Studies Dean: <i>Erin Schmitt</i></p> <p>LFS President:</p> <p>Provost:</p>	<p>Date:</p> <p><i>3/21/13</i></p> <p><i>4/15/13</i></p> <p><i>4/18/13</i></p> <p><i>4/19/13</i></p>	<p>1. Syllabus must be attached, syllabus checklist recommended, see guideline, and provost: www.fau.edu/academic/register/UUPCInfo</p> <p>2. Review Provost Memorandum: Definition of a Credit Hour www.fau.edu/provost/files/Definition_Credit_Hour_Memo_2012.pdf</p> <p>3. WAC approval (attach if necessary)</p> <p>4. Gen. Ed. approval (attach if necessary)</p> <p>5. Consent of affected departments (attach if necessary)</p>
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