

Departmental Honors in Biology

The Biology Department awards High Honors and Honors in Biology to Biology majors and joint Biology majors who both show outstanding performance throughout their undergraduate career and prepare theses of high quality. Students with an average of 3.5 or higher in departmental courses *other than BIOL 0500, BIOL 0700, and BIOL 0701* are eligible for departmental honors. The preparation of a senior thesis and a public presentation of your research are necessary but not sufficient conditions for the awarding of departmental honors. Both product and effort are evaluated in determining if a student will receive departmental honors. All thesis deadlines must also be met. The faculty of the Biology Department makes its awards of honors based on the recommendations of the students' research committees and evaluations of all senior research projects considered together. The final decision to grant High Honors or Honors is made by the department based on your effort and progress throughout the term (including participation in the department research meetings and the department seminar program), your public presentation, your thesis defense, and the quality of your final paper. The department acts collectively on all honors decisions at a meeting traditionally scheduled during the middle of the finals period. Thesis committees are expected to present to the department nominations for High Honors and Honors with a detailed justification of the nomination