THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Number   02.01.19

Division   Academic Affairs

Date   December 2002; Reviewed and Revised October 1, 2014; October 27, 2022

Purpose   To establish the policy for graduation with honors recognition for students who complete requirements for a baccalaureate degree. The process for computing grade point average for honors recognition must be clearly stated to ensure uniformity for all students.

Policy   Graduation with honors is recognition awarded to students who graduate with a baccalaureate degree. In addition, recipients of a second bachelor's degree also are eligible to graduate with honors recognition if they meet the required criteria. The process for computing grade point average for honors recognition must follow the guidelines and be applied uniformly to all students.

Procedures

A. The guidelines for student completing their first bachelor's degree are:
1. To be eligible for consideration for honors recognition, a student must complete a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH.
2. Honors recognition will be determined by the grade point average for the last 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH or the cumulative grade point average for all coursework taken at UAH, whichever is higher.
3. The academic terms containing the last 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH to fulfill graduation requirements are identified; the GPA for all courses taken during those terms to satisfy degree requirements is computed; and the Honors recognition is determined as stated below.
    a. If the GPA computed as above is 3.90 or above, the student graduates *summa cum laude*.
    b. If the GPA computed as above is 3.70 or above and below 3.90, the student graduates *magna cum laude*.
4. For the calculation above, start with the last term and continue in reverse chronological order until at least 60 semester hours at UAH have been counted. If any part of a term is included to obtain the required number of hours, then coursework for the whole term must be counted (i.e., Term 1 has 15 semester hours, Term 2 has 18 semester hours, Term 3 has 18 semester hours, and Term 4 has 16 semester hours for a total of 67 semester hours; all 16 semester hours for Term 4 must be counted).
B. Recipients of second bachelor degrees at UAH must meet the following criteria to be eligible for graduation with honors. The guidelines are:
1. A student must complete a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH beyond the coursework required for the first baccalaureate degree.

2. Honors will be determined by the grade point average for the last 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH (beyond the coursework required for the first baccalaureate degree) *or* the cumulative grade point average for all coursework taken at UAH (above the coursework required for the first baccalaureate degree), whichever is higher.
3. The academic terms containing the last 60 semester hours of coursework at UAH to fulfill graduation requirements will be identified, and the GPA for all courses taken at UAH during those terms to satisfy degree requirements will be computed and the honors will be determined as indicated below:
    a. 3.90 or above, the student graduates summa cum laude
    b. 3.70 or above and below 3.90, the student graduates magna cum laude.
    c. 3.40 or above and below 3.70, the student graduates *cum laude*.

For the calculation above, start with the last term and continue in reverse chronological order until at least 60 semester hours at UAH above the coursework required for the first baccalaureate degree have been counted. If any part of a term is included to obtain the required number of hours, then coursework for the whole term must be counted. For example: Term 1 has 15 semester hours; Term 2 has 18 semester hours; Term 3 has 18 semester hours; Term 4 has 16 semester hours for a total of 67 semester hours; all 16 semester hours for Term 4 must be counted.

Review   Academic Affairs will review this policy every five years or sooner as needed.