

Dear ECAS Students,

Emory College of Arts and Sciences is excited to introduce a new GPA-based graduation distinction, Honors in Course, to recognize academic achievement based on cumulative GPA. This recognition is independent of the research-based departmental Honors Program available through the College's Honors Program, which will continue. The distinction of Honors in Course was approved by the College Honors Committee and the College Senate last year.

This new GPA-based recognition will denote academic excellence by awarding standard Latin designations on the degrees of students who finish in the top 30% of Emory College graduates. The standard Latin designations will be calculated as follows:

- The top 5% of the class will be awarded *summa cum laude*
- The top 5.01 - 15% of the class will be awarded *magna cum laude*
- The top 15.01 - 30% will be awarded *cum laude*.

Honors in Course will provide an additional way to recognize students for academic excellence. Students who participate in Departmental Research Honors programs and defend honors theses will also be eligible to receive the Honors in Course GPA distinction. Both Departmental Research Honors and the levels at which they are awarded (i.e., "highest honors," "high honors," and "honors") and/or the Latin tag for the Honors in Course recognition will be documented on a student's official transcript.

ECAS students need not do anything to be considered for Honors in Course. For students graduating in the spring 2025 forward, the University Registrar will calculate cumulative GPA percentages for graduating seniors and determine which students will be granted Honors in Course designations and at which level. May's graduating class will set the GPA cutoffs for students graduating the following summer and fall.

Students with questions about Honors in Course are encouraged to contact their OUE advisor or the College Honors Program.

FAQs:

Q. Do I need to sign up?

A. Students do not need to sign up or register to be considered for the Honors in Course recognition. It will automatically be added to the student's transcripts 3-4 weeks after the end of the semester.

Q. When will I know if I have graduated with an Honors in Course distinction?

A. Honors in Course recognitions will take some time to calculate and post to students' transcripts. The calculations and GPA cutoffs for Honors in Course will be calculated after all

grades for a given term have been posted and are finalized. This will typically take place 3-4 weeks after the end of each semester.

Q. What will the cutoff GPA values be?

A. The GPA cutoff values for Honors in Course will need to be calculated for each Spring's graduating class. These will vary from year to year.

Because of the small number of August and December graduates, the preceding spring GPA cutoffs will determine whether a student receives Honors in Course.

Q. Will Honors in Course be recognized or announced at graduation?

A. No. Honors in Course will take time to calculate and post to students' transcripts. We anticipate that this will occur 3-4 weeks after the fully graded date posted by the Registrar's office.