

Public Health Honors Track

Purpose: The Public Health Honors Program trains students to conduct sustained, supervised research in topics and practices pertaining to the field of Public Health. Public Health Honors students work closely with a faculty mentor, take Honors and Public Health courses, present their finished research at the Undergraduate Showcase, and write an Honors thesis based on their research/Applied Learning Experience.

To apply: Students must first declare and be accepted into the Public Health undergraduate (BA) program, then apply to the Honors program AFTER consultation with the Public Health undergraduate advisor. A 3.2 minimum GPA is required.

- Note: Students will need a Departmental Approval Form (to be found on the Honors website Apply page, signed by the Public Health undergraduate advisor, as part of the Honors application.

Requirements/Coursework:

1. **HON 491 - Interdisciplinary Junior Honors Seminar:** 3 credits
 - a. This course is an interdisciplinary, upper-division, Writing Intensive course. Topics vary from semester to semester depending on instructor.
 - b. Students may petition to waive this course (no credits will be counted) if they take a graduate course, an approved 400-level seminar course (i.e. PH 410- Introduction to Epidemiology (W), PH 411- Nutrition and Disease Prevention, PH 420- Social Behavioral Health I: Health Education & Health Promotion, PH 440- Health Policy and Management), have a research or internship experience (outside of the Applied Learning Experience), or have completed HON/A Section coursework as part of the four year Honors program.
2. Submission of a 10-12 page written research proposal, accompanied by a signed proposal and mentor form.
 - a. We recommend that students take either HON 495 - Introduction to Research or PH 480- Application of PH Principles (3 credits) to do the work of writing the proposal
 - i. These courses are focused on the shaping of a research proposal and its presentation.
 - b. Students must have their projects approved by the Public Health undergraduate advisor and the Public Health B.A. Chair to ensure that projects fulfill the requirements of the major.
 - c. Students must have a faculty mentor for their project by the end of the semester
 - i. If a student chooses a faculty mentor who is from outside the Public Health department (e.g. JABSOM, Nursing, etc.), the Public Health undergraduate advisor must approve the mentor to ensure that s/he is aware of the requirements of the Public Health department and that s/he is qualified to advise the student on the proposed project.
 - ii. The form for the proposal and mentor approval (including if the mentor is an outside faculty mentor) can be found on the Honors website, along with the guidelines for the Honors proposal.

2425 Campus Road, Sinclair Library, Honolulu, HI 96822.

Phone: (808) 956-8391; Email: honors@hawaii.edu; Web: <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/undergrad/honors/>

- HON 494 Honors Workshop (zero credits) is the companion workshop for the first semester of HON 496 or PH 485. It is designed to familiarize students with the protocol for independent study with their Faculty mentor, criteria and timeline for the Senior Honors Project, and requires students to submit a detailed plan of research for their HON 496/PH 485 work.
3. **HON 496 - Senior Honors Project or PH 485 - PH Applied Learning Experience or PH 489 - PH Undergraduate Capstone Seminar:** 6 credits (2 semesters) or any combination of the above
- a. Students work independently with their faculty mentor/advisor on their research and in the writing of their thesis.
 - b. Students taking their first 3 credits of HON 496 or PH 485 must also attend the HON 494 Honors Workshop to keep abreast of Upper Division Honors requirements, announcements and program deadlines.
 - c. Students will consult with their faculty mentor/advisor and their committee members (two additional) over the course of the research, ideally culminating in a final conversation for feedback on a completed rough draft approximately 7 weeks prior to the end of the last semester.
 - d. Submission of the completed Honors Senior Project is April 15 (spring semester) or November 15 (fall semester)
 - e. At the end of the second 3 credits of HON 496 or PH 489, students present their research at the Undergraduate Showcase.