

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 1315F  
Date of Senate Approval 12/03/15

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 8 (HON):** **Change in the procedure for granting Honors credit for Transfer and Study Abroad courses**

**Effective Date: Fall 2016**

**1. Delete:** On pages 171-172, under **Honors Credit for Courses Taken at Schools Other than UNC Asheville:**

Students may receive Honors credit for courses taken at other institutions, either through Study Abroad or through transfer. Students wishing to receive Honors credit for courses taken through Study Abroad should review the Honors Program website, <http://honors.unca.edu/>, for specific details on what is required to have a Study Abroad course count for Honors. Students must contact the Honors Program office prior to departing on the trip.

Transferred courses are subject to the review of the Honors Program director to determine eligibility for Honors credit. Students interested in receiving Honors credit for courses taken at other institutions, should visit the Honors Program office in Karpen Hall.

**Add:** On pages 171-172, in place of deleted entry:

Students may receive Honors credit for courses taken at other institutions, either through transfer or through Study Abroad. Credit for at most one Honors Special Topics course may be granted for courses taken at other institutions.

Transfer students who were in Honors programs at other institutions may petition the Honors Program director for up to 9 credit hours for Honors-designated classes taken at previous institutions.

Study Abroad students may be granted up to 6 credit-hours for one term or semester of Study Abroad and up to 9 credit-hours for one year of Study Abroad. Honors credit will only be given for Study Abroad courses taken at the 300-level or higher. Students wishing to receive Honors credit for courses taken through a UNC Asheville approved Study Abroad program should review the Honors Program website, <http://honors.unca.edu/>, for specific details on what is required to have a Study Abroad course count for Honors. Students must contact the Honors Program office prior to departing on the trip.

**Impact Statement:** This change will have no impact on staffing needs or any other university resources and represents only minimal change from the Program's historical practice, as described below.

**Rationale:** Historically, students have been granted up to 6 hours of Honors credit for study abroad. This practice was adopted to encourage Honors students to take advantage of study abroad opportunities without sacrificing time they might otherwise use to meet requirements for graduation with Distinction as a University Scholar.

This practice considers the case of students studying abroad for a single semester; students spending a full year away from campus are not as equitably rewarded despite their extended study abroad. Therefore, recently, students studying abroad for a year have been granted additional credit. To ensure that students complete the majority of the 21 hours of Honors credit required for Distinction, we propose a 9-credit-hour cap on the Honors credits that can be earned abroad.

Similarly, it has been practice to allow one course taken abroad to substitute for a single Honors Special Topics course. (The rationale for this practice is similar to that given two paragraphs back.) To ensure that students complete at least one of the two Special Topics courses required for Distinction at UNC Asheville, regardless of the duration of a student's study abroad, we propose that this historical practice be continued.

Finally, historically the Honors Program Director has had discretion in granting Honors credit for honors coursework taken elsewhere. This change merely places an explicit cap on the number of such credit hours that may be granted. A cap of 9 hours has been chosen in order to ensure that students complete the majority of the 21 hours of Honors credit required for Distinction at UNC Asheville.