EECS Honors Program Info Session

Vice Chair for Undergraduate Matters, Professor Dan Klein
Eligibility Requirements

• Unit requirement: 45 units completed at Berkeley
  ▪ 12 for junior transfers

• Lower division: Completion of lower-division requirements for the degree.

• Classwork excellence: GPA requirement
  ▪ Minimum 3.7 cumulative & technical GPA
Completion Requirements

- Fulfill all major degree requirements
  - EECS or L&S CS
- Breadth requirement, consisting of at least 3 upper division courses taken for a letter grade, outside the EECS Department.
  - Must total a minimum of 10 units
  - These courses may be taken in a single department, or in related departments if they address a unifying theme.
- Classwork excellence: GPA requirement
  - Minimum 3.5 cumulative & technical GPA
Completion Requirements

- **Active engagement in research**
  - Students must earn four units of independent study credit for research participation by the time of graduation.
  - Work can be counted from other institutions or past semesters with confirmation from supervising faculty members.
  - Honors students have the option of completing a one or two semester honors thesis for a letter grade.
Benefits of the Program

• Connections in the department
  ▪ Research connections
  ▪ Honors advising (by the Chairs)
  ▪ Bi-annual dinner with faculty

• Career benefits
  ▪ Official notation of honors on transcript
  ▪ Competitive edge for grad school, internships, job search
  ▪ Annual alumni dinner
  ▪ Alumni Linked-in group
Successful Honors Application

1. Typically in junior or sophomore year

2. A clear idea of what you want to do that goes beyond the "normal degree":
   - Expertise in non-EECS field (e.g. minor in physics, MCB, music, cognitive science, …)
   - Research experience
How to Apply

• Get an application from the web or from the Center for Student Affairs in 205 Cory Hall.
  - eecs.berkeley.edu search “honors”

• Applications accepted twice yearly; the deadline is typically the last day of classes each semester.
Applications are reviewed by a committee convened by the Vice Chair for Undergraduate Matters. The committee evaluates applications for various signs of aptitude including:

- well-written essay
- above-average course loads
- sincere commitment to a breadth area outside EECS
- grades.

Other factors that may strengthen an application include: departmental or campus service, undergraduate research experience, and interest in attending graduate school.
Selection

• The committee evaluates applications for various signs of aptitude including: a well-written essay, above-average course loads, **sincere commitment to a breadth area outside EECS**, and grades.

• Other factors that may strengthen an application include: departmental or campus service, undergraduate research experience, and interest in attending graduate school.