EECS Honors Program
Info Session
Fall 2016
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Eligibility Requirements

- Unit requirement: 45 units completed at Berkeley
  - 12 for junior transfers
  - May include up to ten AP units
- Lower division: Completion of lower-division requirements for the degree
- Classwork excellence: Minimum 3.7 cumulative & technical GPA
The EECS Honors Program is open to students declared in both the EECS B.S. and CS B.A. degree programs. Honors students pursue an academic concentration outside of the department, engage in research, receive a special faculty advisor, and are invited to special events with faculty and EECS Honors alumni.

Benefits

- Special events and guest speakers
- Meetings with Chair of the EE and CS divisions
- 10-annual dinner with faculty
- Annual dinner with alumni
- Priority access to exclusive faculty advisors
- Membership in Honors Program LinkedIn group with program alumni
- EECS B.S. students will receive official notation of honors degree on Berkeley transcript.

Eligibility

- At least 65 units completed at Berkeley.
  - This may also include up to ten AP units.
  - Junior transfers must have at least 32 units completed at UC Berkeley.
- Completion of honors division major requirements.
- Minimum overall and technical GPA of 3.7.
- Interest in undergraduate research and an academic discipline outside of EECS.
- Honors students may request that their department withdraw from the Honors Program and continue as regular EECS students.

Applications

- Deadline to apply for Spring 2016: Friday, December 5th, 2015.
- All applications must be submitted online by the deadline.
- Applications are accepted only by students who have completed at least 32 units at UC Berkeley.
- Applications should include a proposed course plan, and an essay explaining the student's motivation for applying and their desired area of study.
- Applications will be reviewed after all final grades are posted.

Selection Criteria

- Applications are reviewed by a committee convened by the Vice Chair for Undergraduate Matters. The committee evaluates applications for various signs of aptitude including: a well-written essay, average GPA, and prospective research experience.
- Other factors that may strengthen an application include: departmental or campus service, undergraduate research experience, and interest in attending graduate school.

Requirements for Completion

- Fulfill all degree requirements for Bachelor's degree in EECS or Computer Science.
- At least 65 units of "Honors Thesis" (EECS 198) or other approved research.
- A breadth requirement, consisting of at least 3 upper division courses (totaling at least 10 units) outside the EECS department.
  - These courses must be taken for a letter grade.
  - Honor Thesis: Senior thesis expectations and grade will be agreed upon by student and their sponsoring faculty.
  - Students should then enroll in four units of EECS 198 or CS 198 during their senior year. They may complete these units S/NP or for a letter grade.

Honors Information Session

- Meet with Program Staff to learn more about the Honors Program.

Program Staff

- Assistant Chair for Undergraduate Programs, EECS 80-202, (510) 642-3860, eecs80-202@berkeley.edu
- Graduate Chair for Undergraduate Programs, EECS 80-202, (510) 642-3860, eecs80-202@berkeley.edu
Completion Requirements

• Degree requirements

• Breadth requirement: At least 3 upper division courses taken for a letter grade, outside the EECS Department.
  ▪ Must total a minimum of 10 units
  ▪ May be taken in a single department, or in related departments if they address a unifying theme

• Classwork excellence: 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
  ▪ This is a research based program!
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
Honors Thesis

- Honors students have the option of completing an honors thesis:
  - 4 units of EE or CS H196
  - P/NP or Letter Graded
  - 1 or 2 semesters of senior year
  - Conditions of completion are agreed upon with sponsoring faculty.

- *Due to college policy, this is required for L&S CS student who wish to receive an honors notation on their transcript.
  - Should you decide not to complete a thesis, the department is able to provide an official letter confirming completion.
Successful Honors Application

1. Typically in junior year

2. Interested in research experience and graduate school
   - Preferably already started

3. 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

• Download 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
  ▪ Due December 9th
**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE EECS HONORS DEGREE PROGRAM**

**Name (Last, First):**

**Student ID Number:**

**Intended Semester of Graduation:**

**Major:**

**If EECS, are you EE focused or CS focused?**

**Phone:**

**Berkeley Email:**

**Permanent Email:**

**Current Address:**

**Permanent Address:**

**UCB GPA:**

(overall GPA through last semester on record)

**Total AP units:**

**Total UC Berkeley units**

(including current semester):

**Transfer Students ONLY**

**Prior Institution:**

**GPA at prior institution:**

**Current Faculty Advisor:**

**Breadth Area:**

**Proposed Breadth Courses**

(Minimum 10 units):

1. 

2. 

3. 

**Program Planning Form**

**Name:**

**SID:**

Beginning with the current term indicate all courses you plan to take, including those needed to complete major(s), college, and University requirements. Also indicate semester(s) in which you plan to pursue research and complete your breadth courses.

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+ **Resume**

+ **Essay**
Application Review

- Reviewed after Fall 2016 grades are official
- Reviewed by a committee convened by the Vice Chair for Undergraduate Matters.
- Evaluated 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
Next deadline:
Friday, December 9th @ 4pm

205 Cory Hall or
nicolemclntyre@berkeley.edu