The UMass Dartmouth Honors College will immerse you in a vibrant and innovative learning environment that engages and challenges academically talented students across all majors. Admission to the Honors College is by invitation based on your UMass Dartmouth application. Upon completion of the program, you will graduate as a Commonwealth Scholar, a statewide recognition that will be designated on your transcript and diploma.

**Student Awards**
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship
- Marshall Scholarship
- Michael S. Dukakis Internship in Public Service
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

**Research & Scholarship**
All Honors College students complete The APEX (Academic Project or Experience) that culminates your honors education and gives you an advantage with employers and graduate schools. Students often publish their work with faculty in peer-reviewed journals and/or present at professional conferences.

You may choose one of three tracks:
- **Traditional research**: Scientific experiments, critical literature evaluation, etc.
- **Performance/Expression**: Creative endeavors or marketing plans or business plans
- **Applied Service**: Internships, volunteer work, or work done in a "real-world" setting

**Graduation Requirements**
- Complete 24 honors credits (21 credits of coursework and at least 3 credits of an honors project)
- Maintain an overall GPA of 3.2
- Earn a B or better in honors courses
- Complete the final academic project or experience (APEX)

**Enrollment By College**
- College of Arts & Sciences: 155 students
- College of Engineering: 131 students
- College of Nursing & Health Sciences: 67 students
- Charlton College of Business: 45 students
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: 36 students

**About Our Incoming Class of 2026**
- Number of honors students enrolled in the Class of 2026: 160
- Average high school GPA: 4.162
- Students of color: 23%
Members of the Class of 2021 are working as a:

- Registered nurse
- Medical laboratory scientist
- Game developer
- Software engineer
- Molecular laboratory technician
- Content marketing and publishing specialist
- Data scientist

Honors College graduates began careers at:

- Thermo Fischer Scientific
- Boston Bruins
- Laboratory of Dr. Craig Mello, Nobel Prize winner
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
- Gulf of Maine Research Institute
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

Our alumni are enrolled in graduate programs at:

- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Harvard University
- Northeastern University
- Bentley University (MBA program)
- UMass Law

SPECIAL SPACES

- Honors Scholar Living & Learning Community for first-year and select sophomore students, which provides a support system and built-in study groups.
- Honors Annex, located in the Honors Complex in the Claire T. Carney Library, with private workspaces and computers near honors faculty offices

ENGAGED LEARNING

Take transformative classes like:

- Predators: How U.S. Drones and the CIA Changed War
- Friends with Benefits: Interpersonal relationships and health
- Mind/Machine: An interdisciplinary study of artificial intelligence
- The U.S. Civil Rights Movement with an alternative spring break trip to Alabama

FROM OUR ALUMNI

Working with like-minded students and being mentored by dedicated faculty are some of the best aspects of being in the Honors College. Having a faculty mentor has allowed me to learn and develop new research and professional skills.

-Christopher McGuire ’22, Psychology major

Interned with The Samaritans and graduated with a pre-professional certificate in mental health. He is attending Antioch University of New England for a doctorate in clinical psychology.

The Honors College is very challenging but rewarding if you are willing to put in the time, effort, and commitment needed to be successful. I enjoyed the small class sizes, which enable more one-on-one time with the professors, more dynamic discussions, and the opportunity to interact with different majors.

-Chelsey Silva ’22, Nursing major

A six-year member of the MA Air National Guard