

## DETERMINING LEVELS OF HONORS FOR SENIORS

The University Honors Program Committee clearly does not rigidly apply set GPA cutoffs, but instead exercises flexibility in considering individual cases on their own merit.

Range of GPA:

3.20-3.49	<i>Cum Laude</i>
3.50-3.89	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
3.90-4.00+	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>

Besides GPA, the following other criteria have emerged by consensus as the most important in considering the levels of honors.

1. **Honors Seminars:** Has the student taken a broad range of seminars from various professors vs. seminars from the same professor? Do the evaluations from the UHP faculty indicate Honors-level engagement in the seminars? What kind of grades has the student received in Honors seminars? Does the student have the requisite number of courses? Has the student participated in cross-cultural/multicultural experiences or courses at UNM?
2. **Abilities:** Based on the written/artistic work included in the file and faculty evaluations, has the student demonstrated knowledge, writing ability, critical/creative thinking, and articulate oral expression?
3. **Breadth:** Has the student been able to fashion an academic program that gives him or her an expansive education in a variety of areas? Has the student taken advantage of international or national academic programs? Has the student taken advantage of field-based courses and programs or other hands-on type of educational experiences?
4. **Difficulty:** Has the student elected a course of study that has been challenging? Are a disproportionate number of courses at the lower level? If the student is in a department with a disciplinary honors program, has she or he taken advantage of it?
5. **Senior Options:** Has the student taken advantage of doing research to complete a thesis or project either interdisciplinary or disciplinary? How successfully? If the student chose the student teaching option, how successful were they? Did the student participate in a Senior Colloquium? What was his or her project?
6. **Extracurricular Activities:** To what degree has the student been engaged in activities within the university, the community, and/or the Honors Program?
7. **Honors & Awards:** Although levels of honors are not awarded on the quantity or type of awards or honors a student may receive, they do reflect on the traits and qualities of a student and may thus assist in the process.