

**University Honors Program  
Proposed Catalog Changes  
Effective Summer 2018**

1. Make the following changes to the **University Honors Program Participation Requirements**:

**Participation Requirements.** A member in good standing of the University Honors Program must be registered at the UI, maintain a 3.3 cumulative GPA, and complete a minimum of ~~three graded honors credits in the first semester, and at least~~ six graded honors credits by the end of the second semester; thereafter, students must complete, on average, one honors course every second semester. Students in the program who have averaged at least one graded honors course each semester and have a cumulative institutional GPA of 3.3 (credits earned at the UI) are allowed to register with the first group of seniors.

**Distance Education:** 50% or more of curricular requirements cannot be completed via distance

**Geographical Area:** Moscow

**Rationale:** The rationale for this change is connected to student retention and recruitment in conjunction with academic advising. Presently, incoming Honors students are at risk of losing their Honors membership status and, for many, their Honors scholarship, if they do not enroll in a 3 credit hour Honors designated course their first semester on campus (see Catalogue entry above). While Honors students may use an approved Course Adjustment Contract to earn honors credits in regular courses, this process is complex and difficult to successfully navigate for new incoming students, of which there are about 150 each fall semester. While the Honors Program staff tries their hardest to advise students about this participation requirement before they arrive on campus, a good number of them still do not meet this requirement even when all possible academic advising opportunities are used to their fullest extent. These advising opportunities include, but are not limited to, advising via email, phone, and Uldaho Bound and Uldaho Bound Summer between the time that new students are accepted into the program and before they arrive on campus. This proposed change would make a significant and proactive contribution to recruitment, retention and guided academic advising as it helps in preventing negative experiences related to scholarship loss and active Honors membership status loss, while keeping academic requirements in the program rigorous.