



Honours Program FAQ

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What is the Honours BA degree in Rhetoric and Communications?

The Honours BA is a degree that offers all of the benefits of our 3-Year and 4-Year BA programs as well as the opportunity for intensive study of theories and methods in rhetoric and communications. This program is designed to prepare qualified students for graduate studies, and also provide understanding of, and qualification in, the fields of rhetoric and communications for employment opportunities.

What graduate or professional studies can I pursue with the Honours degree?

Students with an Honours BA in Rhetoric and Communications can enter graduate studies in such fields as communications, composition studies, media studies, journalism, rhetoric, cultural studies, law, and public relations, among others.

What careers can I pursue with the Honours degree?

Upon completion, students are well prepared for public- and private-sector careers that depend on advanced analytical and communicative skills.

Sample careers include: communications officer, media coordinator, social media manager, publicity agent, public affairs officer, public information officer, journalist, marketing manager, museum or gallery educator, technical or scientific writer, copywriter, copy editor, speech writer, press secretary, event planner, or researcher, among others.

What are the admission requirements?

Students must have:

- Minimum 30 credit hours completed
- Minimum 3.0 GPA (B) in all Honours subject courses (based on all attempts)
- Minimum 2.5 GPA (C+) in non-Honours subject courses (Fs are not included, and in the case of repeated courses, only the highest grade will be used).

What are the required courses?

Students must complete core RHET courses at the 1000-, 2000-, and 3000- level, some of which are offered every other year. In addition, students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of 4000-level Honours courses. Honours courses include:

RHET-4138(3) Modern Rhetorical Theory

RHET-4150(3) Studies in the Rhetoric of Nonfiction

RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology

RHET-4152(3) Digital Rhetorics

RHET-4401(3) Rhetoric of the Public Sphere

RHET-4420(3) Rhetorics of Identity

RHET-4900(3) Honours Thesis in Rhetoric and Communications

How do I apply to the program?

To apply, complete the [Honours Declaration/Application Form](#), and submit it to the Department via rhetoric@uwinnipeg.ca. Our Department Chair and Honours Advisor will review your forms, and then you will be informed about your eligibility for the program. If approved, our Department will submit the forms to the Registration/Student Central office so they can update your student record.

We strongly recommend that students considering the Honours Program meet with our Honours Advisor before applying or at the start of the program.

NOTE:

- Students who would like to graduate with an Honours degree **do not** need to submit the Honours declaration form until they start registering for 4000-level courses. Degree planning questions for advisors are, of course, still welcome prior to the 4000-level.
- If you do not complete all of your Honours course requirements within one academic year, you must submit the Honours form again at the start of the second year in order to continue the program.

Do RHET Honours courses have prerequisites?

Students must complete a minimum of 42 credit hours of coursework by the start of the semester when they plan to take 4000-level RHET courses.

How do I register for Honours courses?

You can register for 4000-level courses via WebAdvisor/Student Planning after completing 42 credit hours of coursework.

NOTE:

- If you need a prerequisite waiver or any other permissions (e.g., registering over capacity), those must be obtained from the course instructor. Honours advisors cannot waive requisites or provide course permissions.

What is the Honours Thesis in Rhetoric and Communications (RHET-4900)?

The Honours Thesis is an elective course that is taught on a one-on-one basis through an arrangement between an Honours student and a supervising faculty member in the Department. The student completes an Honours thesis paper as part of this course.

How long is the Honours Thesis?

The Honours Thesis is a 3-credit hour course offered over the course of one term.

What are the requirements for completing the Honours Thesis?

Students must complete a 30-35 page thesis paper under the mentorship of their course supervisor. Upon completion, the thesis paper is reviewed and graded by the faculty supervisor and a second reader. A student's thesis may develop out of their prior coursework in Rhetoric and Communications.

How do I register for the Honours Thesis course?

In order to register for RHET-4900, you must first be accepted into the Honours program.

Once accepted into the program, you must identify a thesis topic and approach a potential faculty supervisor who has expertise in the topic area. If the faculty member agrees to supervise your thesis, you must then approach another faculty member to be your second reader. Once your supervisor and second reader are confirmed, you must submit an [Honours Thesis Application Form](#) to the [Department](#) for approval. Upon approval, you can register for the Thesis course via WebAdvisor/Student Planning.

Can I take Honours courses if I am not in the Honours Program?

Yes, you can take Honours courses (except the Honours Thesis) without applying to the Honours program.

Can I take Honours courses if I am not majoring or minoring in a RHET program?

Yes, you can take RHET Honours courses (except the Honours Thesis) if you are in a different department.

Where can I find more information?

- Academic Calendar: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/rhet.pdf>
- Speak to a Department advisor, contact the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications office at rhetoric@uwinnipeg.ca to schedule an appointment.