

Economics Undergraduate Honors Program Announcement February 1, 2011

The Economics Department is now accepting applications for rising seniors who wish to participate in the Economics honors program in the 2011-2012 academic year. If your overall and Economics GPAs are 3.40 or above, we hope you'll consider submitting an application. This is an exciting option for our best students.

Participants in the honors program are required to take our fall seminar, Econ 4309, which provides 3 credit hours toward your Economics major. You should also take our spring seminar, Econ 4339, which does not count toward your major but will give you 3 hours of upper division elective credit. Both of these seminars are designed to assist you in writing and defending an honors thesis in Economics.

Enrollment in the honors seminar, and therefore the Economics honors program, is limited. To apply to the honors program, submit a copy of your transcript (an informal copy is fine) to Prof. Terra McKinnish (terra.mckinnish@colorado.edu) by Friday, March 18. If you feel that there is any additional information of which we should be aware, feel free to include it in a cover letter, but this is not required. We will notify students by Monday, March 28 of admission into the Fall 2011 honors seminar.

Students who have not yet completed the required 3000-level coursework for the economics major (3818, 3070 and 3080) may be told that they cannot be enrolled in the honors seminar until they provide an updated transcript showing satisfactory academic performance in these courses in the Spring or Summer sessions. If we receive a large number of qualified applications for the honors program, some students may not be initially admitted, but may be offered spots as they become available.

In addition to the honors seminar course, we very *strongly* encourage honors students to enroll in Econ 4848 (applied econometrics). We do so because virtually all honors students conduct applied econometric analysis as part of their thesis project. Students also benefit substantially from Econ 4818 (Econometrics), which provides a deeper understanding of the econometric techniques used.

Participating in the honors program provides you with a unique opportunity to stretch beyond the standard undergraduate coursework and conduct original research on a topic of interest to you. It requires a deeper intellectual effort and a much more substantial time commitment than typical undergraduate courses. **Honors students typically spend an average of 200-250 hours on their thesis project during their senior year, and time demands during the spring semester are particularly severe.** Students who successfully complete the honors program, however, find it an extremely rewarding experience and often find it beneficial when applying for jobs or to graduate school.

More information can be found at: <http://www.colorado.edu/honors/graduation.html>