Economics Undergraduate Honors Program Announcement
February 2017

The Economics Department is now accepting applications for rising seniors who wish to participate in the Economics honors program in the 2017-2018 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.

To apply to the honors program, submit a copy of your transcript (an informal copy is fine) to Prof. Martin Boileau (martin.boileau@colorado.edu). 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. Students who apply by Friday March 10 will be notified of admission into the Fall 2017 honors seminar by Tuesday March 28. Applications that are received after March 10, up to the start of the Fall 2017 semester, will be acted on as long as capacity remains in the honors seminar.

Students who, at the time of application, 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.

Prospective honors students who have not yet taken Econ 4848 (Applied Econometrics) are strongly encouraged to enroll in the course. Because virtually all honors students conduct applied econometric analysis as part of their thesis project, they will find the material in that course particularly beneficial, and, in absence of taking the course, will likely have to master much of the material on their own in order to execute their thesis research. 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 around 200 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/