**Policy Revision**

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| **Policy Title** | Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards | | | |
| **Policy URL** | <https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/distinction-honors-awards> | | | |
| **Suggested updates** | * Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards   + Expand applicability of dean’s list and dean’s list with distinction.     - Add half-time categories requiring 6 units; GPA requirements remain unchanged.     - Update full-time categories to require 12 units instead of 15; GPA requirements remain unchanged.     - Honorable Mention category is removed.     - Reformat eligibility information into tables.   + Remove year-based Academic Distinction.   + Rename policy headings for clarity.     - Update Graduation with Academic Distinction to “Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors”.     - Update policy title to “*Undergraduate* Dean’s List, Honors & Awards”.     - Update the “University Academic Honors” section to “University Academic Recognition”.     - Break single section, “Other Awards & Honors” into 2 sections: “Commencement Awards & Recognition” and “Honor Societies”. * Grades & the Grading System   + Update reference to “Dean’s List, Academic Distinction, Honors and Awards” with “Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards”. | | | |
| **Rationale for updates** | * Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards   + Adding a half-time category for the dean’s list recognizes the efforts and progress of the growing half-time student population.   + Reducing the full-time dean’s list to 12 credits aligns with the University’s full-time status policy. As 12 credits is currently the threshold for honorable mention, this category would no longer be needed.   + Academic Distinction is the annual equivalent of the term-based dean’s list, with significant overlap among the students that receive both forms of recognition. Focusing on term-based achievement will reduce complexity for students and the institution.   + Updating the policy headings will add clarity:     - The new policy title reflects the removal of academic distinction and clarifies that the policy only applies to undergraduate students.     - “Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors” is a straightforward term recognized consistently across institutions, whereas Graduation with Academic Distinction is less apparent.     - Updating to “University Academic Recognition” ensures clearer distinction between academic recognitions and the honors program.     - Separating Commencement Awards & Recognition from Honor Societies clarifies the difference between one-time awards (granted at the end of a student’s career) and membership in honor societies (which may be ongoing throughout a student’s career). * Grades & the Grading System   + All reference in policies to academic distinction should be removed to avoid confusion. | | | |
| **Contact Person for Questions** | Abbie Sorg, Caleb Simmons | | | |
| **Responsible Unit** | Office of the Registrar | **URL** | Click or tap here to enter text. | |
| **Career Applicability** | Undergraduate  Graduate  Law  Medicine  Pharmacy  Veterinary Medicine | | | |
| **Approvals Granted**  *(for council use only)* | UGC Policies Subcommittee | Scheduled: 11/14/2023, 12/12/2024, 2/27/2024 | | Status: |
| Undergraduate Council | Scheduled: | | Status: |
| Graduate Council | Scheduled: | | Status: |
| Undergraduate CAAC | Scheduled: | | Status: |
| Graduate CAAC | Scheduled: | | Status: |
| Faculty Senate Executive Committee | Scheduled: | | Status: |
| Faculty Senate | Scheduled: | | Status: |

**Policy Revision Side by Side**

Additions in Green – Deletions in ~~Yellow~~

| Existing Policy | Proposed Edit |
| --- | --- |
| **University Academic ~~Honors~~**  Honors are bestowed as recognition of outstanding academic achievement ~~and as a means to further encourage sound scholarship. They are awarded~~ to every undergraduate student attaining the required proficiency. ~~For some awards, students also receive certificates.~~ ~~The University of Arizona supports academic achievement and is pleased to recognize and reward undergraduate students whose performance merits special attention. For more information see the~~[**~~Honors College~~**](http://directory.arizona.edu/colleges/honors-college)~~section~~.  **Dean's List**  ~~Three categories of~~ Dean's List ~~are~~ awarded every ~~semester~~ based on units completed for credit and letter[**grade**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/grading-system) (exclud~~ing all~~ Pass/Fail [P/F] ~~and~~ Superior/Pass [S/P] grades). ~~Also, all~~ Incomplete (I) grades ~~must be made up before the honor is bestowed~~.   1. ~~Dean's List with Distinction -- is based on 15 units and a 4.000 grade-point-average.~~ 2. ~~Dean's List -- is based on 15 units and a grade-point average of 3.500-3.999.~~ 3. ~~Honorable Mention -- is based on 12 units of 3.500 and above grade-point-average.~~   Students ~~awarded these academic honors~~ are recognized by their primary [**college**](http://www.arizona.edu/topics/colleges) i.e. the college of their first major or their first degree program), either at the Honors Convocation the following fall or through other means determined by the college. ~~This~~ recognition ~~becomes~~ part of the official record and appears on the transcript.  **Academic Distinction**  ~~Two categories of Distinction are awarded annually based on units completed for credit and letter~~[**~~grade~~**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/grading-system)~~(excluding all Pass/Fail [P/F] and Superior/Pass [S/P] grades). Also, all Incomplete (I) grades must be made up before the honor is bestowed. Distinction~~ is based on all University credit completed in the prior year, beginning with Summer ~~Pre-session and inclusive of other Summer Sessions, Fall, Winter,~~ and Spring ~~terms,~~ and Dynamically Dated courses. ~~During each regular semester (i.e. Fall and Spring), students must complete a minimum of 12 graded units.~~   1. Highest Academic Distinction -- ~~is based on~~ 30 ~~units and a~~ 4.000 ~~grade-point-average.~~ 2. Academic Distinction ~~-- is based on~~ 30 ~~units and a grade-point-average of~~ 3.500-3.999.   ~~Students awarded these academic honors are recognized at the Honors Convocation of their primary~~[**~~college~~**](http://www.arizona.edu/topics/colleges)~~(i.e. the college of their first major or their first degree program) the following Fall. Students awarded either category of Distinction will receive a certificate from their primary college.~~  **~~Graduation with Academic Distinction~~**  Three categories are awarded for superior scholarship in work leading to the bachelor's degree. This honor, based upon ~~graduation~~ grade-point-average, ~~becomes~~ part of the official record, is awarded upon ~~graduation~~ and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192) and diploma of the recipient.   1. Summa Cum Laude -- ~~is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.900 ~~or higher.~~ 2. Magna Cum Laude ~~-- is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.700-3.899. 3. Cum Laude -- ~~is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.5000-3.699.   To be eligible for ~~distinction~~ at graduation, bachelor's degree candidates must have completed at least 45 graded units with letter grades that carry the required grade-point-average. ~~Also, in computing the above grade-point-averages, only~~[**~~University Credit~~**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/credit/credit-definitions)~~is considered. This policy applies to all students graduating in December 1998 or later.~~  **Graduation with Honors**  Graduation with Honors is bestowed on students who have completed all requirements of the University-wide Honors Program. This academic recognition ~~becomes~~ part of the official record and is noted on the transcript and diploma of the recipient. Honors students also wear a special cord and medallion at graduation.  **~~Other~~ Awards and ~~Honors~~**  Other awards and honors in recognition of outstanding academic achievement are bestowed through ~~the various~~ college~~s~~ ~~and departments. Also,~~ colleges and departments offer participation in discipline-based honor societies and associations. Interested students should contact departmental and college academic advisors. | **University Academic Recognition**  Recognition of outstanding academic achievement is granted to every undergraduate student attaining the required proficiency.  **Dean's List**  Dean’s List recognition is awarded every term, based on units completed for credit and letter grade, which excludes courses with the following grade types:   * Superior (S), Pass (P), or Fail (F) grades * Incomplete (I) grades that have not yet been completed   Dean’s List recognition is part of the official record and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192).   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **CATEGORY** | **GPA REQUIREMENT** | **MINIMUM CREDIT REQUIREMENT** | | |  |  | Half-Time Students | Full-Time Students | | Dean’s List with Distinction | 4.000 | 6 | 12 | | Dean’s List | 3.500-3.999 | 6 | 12 |   **Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors**  Three categories are awarded for superior scholarship in work leading to the bachelor's degree. This honor, based upon degree conferral grade-point-average, is part of the official record, is awarded upon degree conferral and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192) and diploma of the recipient.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **LATIN HONORS** | **GPA REQUIREMENT** | | Summa Cum Laude | 3.900-4.000 | | Magna Cum Laude | 3.700-3.899 | | Cum Laude | 3.500-3.699 |   To be eligible for Latin Honors at graduation, bachelor's degree candidates must have completed at least 45 graded units of [**University Credit**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/credit/credit-definitions) with letter grades that carry the required grade-point-average.  **Graduation with Honors**  Graduation with Honors is bestowed on students who have completed all requirements of the University-wide [Honors Program](https://frankehonors.arizona.edu/). This academic recognition is part of the official record and is noted on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192)and diploma of the recipient. Honors students also wear a special cord and medallion at graduation bestowed by the [W. A. Franke Honors College](https://frankehonors.arizona.edu/).  **Commencement Awards and Recognition**  Other awards and honors in recognition of outstanding academic achievement, such as honor cords, are bestowed through a student’s college.  **Honor Societies**  Colleges and departments offer participation in discipline-based honor societies and associations. Interested students should contact departmental and college academic advisors. |