Graduating with Honors

Honors Faculty Advisor

Dr. Lindsay Comstock

Requirements

1. Students must have a 3.30 GPA in chemistry and a 3.00 GPA overall.
2. Students must declare their intent to graduate with honors by the end of the semester prior to the final semester enrolled at Wake Forest. For example, if graduating in the Spring, declaration must occur by the end of the Fall semester. Complete the Honors in Chemistry Form and submit it to the honors faculty advisor (see above).
3. Students must submit a written honors thesis to be read by an Honors Committee (the adviser and two other faculty members). This group will constitute the student’s committee and will be appointed as early as possible, but no later than the beginning of the student’s final semester.
4. Students must defend their thesis before the Honors Committee. All members of the Honors Committee must sign the title page of the honors thesis after a successful defense.
5. Following a successful defense, students will present their thesis work to the department at the Honors Symposium.
6. Students will have three bound copies of the thesis made – one for the department, one for the adviser, and one for her/himself.
7. Students may carry out their honors work outside the department only if a departmental faculty member is intimately involved and serves as the student’s adviser. The committee may include the outside adviser, but must include another faculty member in the Department of Chemistry.

Timetable

(i) Honors work can be started as late as two semesters before graduation, but cannot be started in the last semester before graduation. Students should indicate their intention to carry out honors work with their current or potential research advisers as early as possible. Students are required to complete the Honors in Chemistry Form and submit it to the honors faculty advisor (see above) no later than end of the semester prior to the student’s final semester.

(ii) The Honors Coordinator will schedule periodic meetings and workshops with all students completing Honors in Chemistry throughout the final semester to facilitate thesis progression and completion.

(iii) To ensure that the defense deadline is met, students should schedule the date approximately one month prior to defense. The completed Honors Thesis should be submitted to the research adviser at least one week prior to being presented to the
Honors Committee. The committee must then have an additional week to read the thesis before the thesis defense. The Honors Thesis defense must be completed one week prior to the Chemistry department Honors Symposium. Students may not present their defense during the final exam period, or the period before commencement.