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## **SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **POLICY**

#### **HONORS PROGRAM**

This program is designed for outstanding, highly motivated students and should begin in the freshman year. Entering students are eligible if they have had a sound high school record, high ACT scores and can provide a recommendation from at least one high school teacher or counselor. In addition, students presently enrolled may apply for entrance to the program if they have not completed more than 20 hours of the standard Liberal Arts Core/Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements, have earned a 3.50 grade point average, and can provide recommendations from advisors.

The program is chiefly a substitute for the standard LAC/MTC program. It does not require any specific course work. The student, in consultation with his/her advisor and the Honors Review Board, designs his/her own program of LAC/MTC. In addition to the LAC/MTC substitute, the student may enroll in a 4-8 semester hour Honors project designed by the student and his/her major advisor and approved by the Honors Review Board. Each student will also successfully complete an Honors Senior Interdisciplinary Seminar as well as an Honors Senior Dialogue involving at least three faculty members from among non-major disciplines plus the Honors Director.

To continue in the program the student must maintain a 3.3 cumulative grade point average, overall. Students successfully completing the program will be graduated with special honors at the commencement exercise.

The Honors Review Board and the Honors Program Director will be composed of faculty members selected by the procedures approved by the faculty for committee selection.

Students who have been in the Honors Program and who complete an approved course of study as a substitute for LAC/MTC, but who fail to complete the other requirements including the cumulative 3.3 GPA requirement, will not be graduated with special honors, but will be graduated if all other requirements for graduation have been met.