

NMSU has a number of university-wide programs that recognize academic achievement. These include the Honors College, the Crimson Scholars Program, the Centennial Scholars Program, dean's report of academic achievement, and graduation with honors. In addition, many colleges and departments have their own programs and awards that recognize academic achievement in their students.

The Honors College

The Honors College provides motivated undergraduate students with opportunities to broaden and enrich their academic programs. In small classes taught by master teachers, honors students engage in lively discussion and collaborative investigation of interdisciplinary topics. By taking honors courses, students may also work toward completing general education requirements and disciplinary requirements in the major. There are two program options available to students: University Honors and the Honors Certificate. Each option has separate eligibility requirements, benefits, and forms of recognition for the student. For details concerning eligibility and requirements, see the Honors College section of the catalog.

Crimson Scholars Program

Crimson Scholars is a recognition program for academically superior students. Crimson Scholars receive a number of benefits, including:

- Automatic eligibility for all Honors courses
- Early registration
- Special advising
- Notation on college transcript
- Recognition in the commencement program
- A lapel pin

For eligibility criteria, see the Honors College section of the catalog.

Centennial Scholars Program

Centennial Scholars is a recognition program for academically superior part-time students. Centennial Scholars receive a number of benefits, including:

- Automatic eligibility for all Honors courses
- Early registration
- Special advising
- Notation on college transcript
- Recognition in the commencement program
- A lapel pin

For eligibility criteria, see the Honors College section of the catalog.

NOTE: Crimson and Centennial Scholars status are not interchangeable. Requirements for a status change are available from the Crimson/Centennial Scholars Office.

Dean's Report of Academic Achievement

Following the close of the semester, each college dean publishes a list of students who have achieved honor standing in grades for the previous semester. To be eligible, a student must have been enrolled in 12 or more semester credits with a computable grade in each. The top 15 percent of eligible students by college for that semester will be named to the Dean's Honor List.

Graduation with Honors

To be eligible for four-year degrees with honors, a student must have earned at least 60 semester credits in computable grades while in residence at New Mexico State. (Courses taken in the Honors College and graded S will be counted as a part of the minimum of 60 credits.) The number of students at graduation, by college, receiving degrees with honors in any one year shall not exceed 15 percent; the number receiving high honors shall not exceed 1.5 percent, and the number receiving highest honors shall not exceed one person from each college except in a tie. Of the twelve students receiving highest honors (from the fall and spring commencements), the one with the highest grade-point average and the greatest number of credits earned at NMSU with computable grades will be awarded the Class of 1919 Scholarship Plaque.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Preprofessional Programs

NMSU offers a number of programs designed for transfer to professional schools through its undergraduate colleges. The programs follow.

Preveterinary Medicine is administered by the College of Agriculture and Home Economics.

Prehealth is administered by the College of Arts and Sciences (with the exception of Nursing.)

Prelaw is administered by the College of Business Administration and Economics and by the College of Arts and Sciences. Law schools will accept undergraduates who have earned bachelor's degrees in any major. Many prelaw students take some law courses in their undergraduate program. The College of Arts and Sciences supervises a Supplementary Major in Law and Society, which includes courses from a number of departments and several colleges. It is described under "Government" in the Arts and Sciences chapter. The College of Business Administration and Economics offers a number of Business Law courses which can be found under the prefix BLAW in the course description chapter later in this catalog.

Further information will be found in the sections of this catalog devoted to the colleges. (See also the paragraph on Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education under "Academic Services.")

Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)

The Reserve Officers' Training Corps is a commissioning program designed to attract, motivate, and train qualified students for military service as officers. The ROTC program is represented on the NMSU campus by the Department of Military Science (U.S. Army) and the Department of Aerospace Studies (U.S. Air Force).

Curricula in the Departments of Military Science and Aerospace Studies are divided into basic and advanced courses of two years each. Enrollment in the basic course is voluntary and involves no obligation. Participation in the advanced course is on a contractual basis and leads to military duty as an officer. Elective academic credit is granted by the university for ROTC classes.

Students with prior military service or Junior ROTC experience may receive credit, although not academic credit, for all or portions of the basic course.

All qualified cadets enrolled in ROTC receive a stipend that varies dependent upon the year the cadet is in the program. Additionally, scholarships, which pay full college tuition, various laboratory, textbook, and incidental fees, are available on a competitive basis.

Consult the departmental section of this catalog for more detailed information on the ROTC programs offered by the Departments of Military Science and Aerospace Studies. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the departments directly at (505) 646-4030 and (505) 646-2136, respectively.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES and REQUIREMENTS

General education attempts to foster intelligent inquiry, abstract logical thinking, critical analysis and the integration and synthesis of knowledge; it strives for literacy in writing, reading, speaking, and listening; it teaches mathematical structures, acquainting students with precise abstract thought about numbers and space; it encourages an understanding of science and scientific inquiry; it provides a historical consciousness, including an understanding of one's own heritage as well as respect for other peoples and cultures; it includes an examination of values and stresses the importance of a carefully considered values system; it fosters an appreciation of the arts; and general education provides the breadth necessary to have a familiarity with the various branches of human understanding.

Effective with entering freshmen in Summer Session I of 1991, 38 credits of general education courses are required, distributed as follows.

NOTE: This list is under continuous revision. Please check with the office of the college associate dean for additional eligible courses. Also,