Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this brochure is to familiarize honors Computer Science majors with basic honors policies and to assist students in understanding honors requirements. For detailed information about the honors requirements, refer to the Honors Student Handbook.

Regular Enrollment in Honors Courses
Members of the Calhoun Honors College are required to take and complete at least one honors course each fall and spring semester. Students have until the last day to add a class to add their honors class. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Honors Office.

Maintaining Membership in Honors
Honors students are required to maintain a cumulative GPR of 3.40 or higher. Should a student’s cumulative GPR fall between a 2.80 and a 3.40, s/he will be placed on honors probation and will have one semester to return to good academic standing. If at any time a student’s cumulative GPR falls below a 2.80, s/he will lose all privileges of membership.

Honors Courses
Only courses listed in the university catalog as honors courses may be taken for honors credit. The only exceptions to this are Honors Contracts and graduate courses.

Honors Credit for Graduate Courses
With the approval of the appropriate departmental undergraduate and graduate coordinators and the Honors Director, 6000- and/or 8000-level courses may be substituted for honors courses.

Honors Contracts
Honors Contracts are a mutual agreement between the student and the instructor for a learning experience above and beyond normal course requirements. To receive honors credit by contract, the student must take HON 4000 in conjunction with a 3000- or 4000-level course (in exceptional cases contracts for 2000-level courses may be approved). Contracts must be written and approved in the semester prior to which it is taken.

Earning Honors Credit
Students receive honors credit by earning a grade of A or B in honors courses (except in courses offered as pass/fail).
Dropping Honors Courses
Dropping honors courses can have serious consequences and may jeopardize a student's standing in the Honors College. During the last seven weeks of the semester, honors courses, like regular undergraduate courses, may not be dropped. This includes the honors component of an add-on course (mixed honors/non-honors enrollment).

Grading
Grades in honors courses carry the same number of grade points as grades earned in non-honors courses. Faculty are expected to grade honors students according to the quality of their work, not on the basis of a "curve."

Academic Progress
Honors students are expected to set their sights on meeting the requirements of at least one of the two academic programs, General Honors or Departmental Honors.

General Honors Requirements
To be awarded General Honors, the following requirements must be satisfied.
1) Completion of a minimum of six honors courses of no less than three credits each, distributed as follows:
   a) At least one course from three or more groups (see below);
   b) At least one course in three or more subjects (e.g., ENGL, MTHS)
2) A cumulative grade point average of 3.40 or higher on all Clemson coursework;
3) A grade of A or B in all courses taken to fulfill the requirements of General Honors.
   - Group I Composition and Communication
   - Group II Science, Mathematics & Engineering
   - Group III Social Science
   - Group IV Arts and Humanities
   - Group V Cross Cultural Awareness
   - Group VI Science and Technology in Society
   - Group VII Other
   (Refer to the Honors Handbook or our website for a complete listing of courses.)

Departmental Honors Requirements
Departmental Honors in Computer Science requires the following sequence of courses totaling 7-8 credit hours:
- CPSC 3950 Honors Seminar (HON) (1) [up to two semesters - one semester is required]
- CPSC 4950 Senior Honors Research (HON) (1-3) for a total of six credit hours over a period of two semesters

The designation Senior Departmental Honors in Computer Science is awarded at graduation to upper-division honors students who successfully complete a two-semester research program. In order to prepare for the research, CPSC 3950 will be taken for up to two semesters of the junior year. One semester is required; the second can be taken to give the student more time to choose a topic. CPSC 3950 is a one-credit Honors Seminar that prepares the student for a research project and introduces the research interests of the faculty. CPSC 3950 credits may be substituted for CPSC 4910 and used as free elective credits by Upper-Division Honors students.

During the senior year, the Upper-Division Honors student takes up to 6 credits of CPSC 4950 (normally three credits per semester) while conducting the research project and writing the Honors Thesis. The 4950 credits may be counted as 4000-level computer science requirements (general, not specific required courses) in a student's degree program requirements.

Honors Recognition
General Honors is recognized by a certificate of completion upon graduation from Clemson University. The diploma, permanent transcript, and commencement program will indicate General Honors achievement.
Students who satisfy the requirements for Departmental Honors are recognized at a special ceremony the day before graduation in December and May. The diploma, permanent transcript, and commencement program will indicate Departmental Honors achievement.

Students who satisfy the requirements of both General Honors and Departmental Honors are recognized at a special ceremony the day before graduation in December and May. The diploma, permanent transcript, and commencement program will indicate both General and Departmental Honors achievements.

Honors Q & A

Q: How are honors courses different from regular courses?
A: The main difference is quality of the learning experience, not the quantity of work assigned. Faculty are challenged to make the honors courses more enriching.

Q: Can an honors course count for both General and Departmental Honors?
A: No. Courses taken to fulfill General Honors cannot be applied toward Departmental Honors requirements and vice-versa.

Q: Does the Calhoun Honors College provide academic advising?
A: Yes. In addition to the academic adviser in your department, the Honors Office staff provides advising support on an appointment or drop-in basis.

Q: Do honors students have to complete General Honors before beginning their Departmental Honors requirements?
A: No. Honors students can complete General Honors at any time through the last semester of their senior year.

Q: If I take 2 hours courses in the fall do I still have to take 1 in the spring?
A: Yes. Honors students must take at least one honors course every fall and spring semester.

Q: Who keeps track of my progress in honors?
A: You do. There is a worksheet for General and Departmental Honors on the honors web site. If at any time you would like to have your transcript checked for honors progress, contact the honors office.

Q: What am I required to do to make sure that I received honors recognition at graduation?
A: All candidates are required to complete a “Candidacy Form for Honors Graduates.” The deadline for the form to be submitted coincides with the deadline for candidates to apply for a diploma.

For more information or to request a copy of the Honors Student Handbook contact the Calhoun Honors College at 656-4762 or visit www.clemson.edu/cuhonors.