

December 18, 2014

Dear Psychology Seniors,

As you prepare to enter your final semester, you may have some questions about your eligibility for non-thesis honors. We've briefly summarized how non-thesis honors is calculated and provided some tips and action items for things you should be aware of that might affect your eligibility. *If you are a senior thesis writer, this does not apply to you.*

Non-thesis honors explanation:

- Your final concentration GPA must be 3.85 or higher. Concentration GPA is calculated from a student's best twelve half-courses that meet the requirements, including final semester grades. Check your progress memo that you'll receive in January from your adviser to see which courses are counting!
- The courses that meet the requirements include the Introductory Course requirement, Foundational Courses (as required), Basic and Research Methods, Sophomore Tutorial, the required number of Advanced Courses, and any additional track-specific courses. See the [requirements chart](#) for details of each track.
- If a student has extra courses that meet the requirements, for example, if a student has taken 7 Advanced Courses and only 6 are required, the best 6 grades for Advanced Courses will be counted if the student is eligible for non-thesis honors.
- Students who meet the 3.85 cutoff will receive a departmental (English) recommendation of Honors. With a departmental recommendation of Honors, you are only eligible for the Latin Honors option of Cum Laude when the College determines Latin Honors. An in-depth explanation of [English and Latin Honors can be found here](#).

Action items for checking non-thesis honors eligibility:

*If you're curious about changes you can request for non-thesis honors eligibility, here are some things to check:*

- Switching tracks (if you are able to meet the requirements for the other track, it might change your concentration GPA. See the [requirements chart](#) to check). Email [psychology@wjh](mailto:psychology@wjh) to request a change.
- Counting [non-departmental courses](#) (We only count the non-departmental courses you have requested. Keep in mind the limits by track). Email [psychology@wjh](mailto:psychology@wjh) to request a new or different course.
- The Psychology Undergraduate Office will not be checking for any of these things unless an email requesting a change has been received.
- Specific questions about this? Email [Melissa](#).
- **Any requests for changes must be emailed by January 30** to [psychology@wjh.harvard.edu](mailto:psychology@wjh.harvard.edu).

Below are the grade point equivalents for letter grades, so you can calculate your concentration GPA:

A	4
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A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1
D-	.67
E	0

This will be our last email for the fall semester. Emails will resume on January 22, 2015 with important updates for the spring semester so be on the lookout for this. We will still send odds & ends emails with information about upcoming events & programs.

We hope you have a restful break and happy New Year!

Best wishes,  
Laura Chivers, Melissa Dias, & Jessica Estariz