UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Transfer Policy

All students who transfer into the UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program must have a face-to-face advising session with an Honors Advisor that produces an approved Honors Program of Study. This advising session should be done prior to enrolling for classes. The signed program of study will be placed into the student’s honors file and the student will receive a copy too.

The UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program is not intended to be a major-only honors program. Moreover, one aim of the Honors Program is to ensure that students enroll in a number of dedicated Honors Classes that are populated mostly with other Honors Students.

The standard UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program is an 8 course, 24 credit honors program that includes

- A minimum of five dedicated Honors Courses including both HON.110 FYSH course and a 300 level Honors Seminar
- 3-6 credits of Honors Project or 6 credits of Honors Thesis work
- At most one graduate level class or at most one Honors-by-Contract.

For those students who transfer into UMass Lowell with either AP credit or 30 or more college credits or both, adjustments may be made to the standard curriculum subject to the approval of the Honors Director. In general the student should expect that the following guidelines would apply:

**Guideline 1:** If a student has either already taken College Writing II or has received AP credit for College Writing II, the student will not need to take Honors College Writing II, but should replace this requirement with either an Honors Seminar course or an Honors General Education course offered by either a Humanities or Social Science Department.

**Guideline 2:** If a student has already completed one year of college and enters the UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors program, the student will not be required to take HON 110 FYSH, but should replace this requirement with either an Honors Seminar course or an Honors General Education course
offered by the either a Humanities or Social Science Department. The student may also opt to enroll in HON.110 FYSH.

**Guideline 3:** If a student has already completed 30 or more college credits upon entering the UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program, then the student will only need to satisfy seven of the eight Honors Course Requirements (21 credits). A minimum of four of these must be dedicated Honors Courses.

**Guideline 4:** If a student has already completed 60 or more college credits upon entering the UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program, the student will only need to satisfy six of the eight Honors Course Requirements (18 credits). A minimum of three of these must be dedicated Honors Courses.

**Guideline 5:** A student who is transferring from a Commonwealth Honors Program may transfer up to four courses (12 credits) in the Honors Program. These four courses would replace honors course requirements H1, H2, H3, and H4. Honors Courses taken at non-Commonwealth Honors Programs will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

While these guidelines will enable most transfer students to participate in the UMass Lowell Commonwealth Honors Program without needing to take an additional course or two, it is possible that an extra course or two may need to be taken. This may be the case if the student has already satisfied all general education requirements or the student is aggressively pursuing a double major. Thus, it is important and mandatory that all such students sit with an Honors Advisor and build an Honors Program of study as early as possible.