

HONORS PROGRAM



BRIDGEWATER

STATE UNIVERSITY



FIND

YOUR PEOPLE

What our students love most about the Honors Program at Bridgewater State University is a sense of belonging. We invite you to join this community of motivated students and inspiring professors. You'll enhance your academic experience, make lifelong friends and receive guidance from mentors to do your best work — all with the social support that shows you belong.

AN UNPARALLELED LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The Honors Program at Bridgewater connects students to a diverse community of engaged citizen-scholars on campus and to a network of honors students across Massachusetts and the country. Our honors students enjoy small classes, close interaction with faculty and rich opportunities for research, leadership and community engagement.

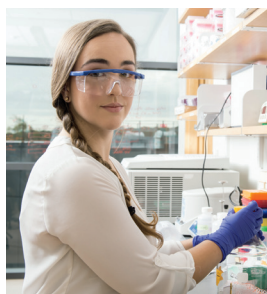




WHY HONORS?

8 REASONS

1. Become part of a **community committed to academic success**
2. Experience **greater student-faculty interaction** and engaging discussions in honors courses, which are capped at 15 students
3. **Stand out** for internships, jobs and scholarships
4. Take advantage of **leadership and service opportunities** through our Honors Student Congress
5. Create **lifelong friendships** and be supported both in and outside the classroom when you join an Honors Living Learning Community
6. Attend more than a dozen free **social events** every semester
7. Enjoy the benefits of the Honors Center, which provides you with a **home away from home**
8. Register for classes early so you **get the courses you need when you need them**



“My experience at BSU was all the more positive because of the Honors Program. I am so grateful for this program and that I was invited to join in my senior year of high school. The small class sizes led to quick friendships with classmates and positive relationships with professors. I was able to present at the on-campus symposiums and at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research twice.”

Jennifer Rogerson
Elementary education and
psychology double major



COMMONWEALTH HONORS

Want to be an honors student from the time you step foot on campus? Then our Commonwealth Honors program is for you.

- As a Commonwealth Honors student in your first two years, you'll earn 9 honors credits that fulfill core curriculum and graduation requirements.
- You can choose among a rich variety of honors courses that are offered each semester in nearly every field of study, from American Pop Culture to Psychological Perspectives on Social Inequality, Writing Rhetorically, Public Speaking, East Asian Literature in Translation and U.S. History and Constitutions Since 1865.
- You're encouraged to transition into Departmental Honors in your junior year, earning 9 honors credits by completing honors projects or research on topics in which you are personally interested, under the mentorship of faculty in your field.

Join Us

If you have a high school GPA of 3.4 or higher or an SAT score of 1170 (or ACT score of 24) or higher, you are accepted into our Commonwealth Honors Program! You will receive an invitation to Honors with your acceptance to BSU.

If you are interested in the Honors Program at BSU and haven't been accepted yet, you are encouraged to apply at bridgew.edu/honors. The application asks you to share a piece of academic work you are proud of, such as your Common Application essay, another piece of writing, video, slideshow or work of art.



DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Interested in pursuing honors in your major? Once you complete your core courses, you can join Departmental Honors where you'll take honors credits in your field of study.

- Departmental Honors students earn 9 honors credits during their junior and senior year
- Honors credits are earned by completing an honors thesis (a culminating research or creative project) and honors contract (an independent project completed in a 300- or 400-level major course)
- Students pursuing Departmental Honors enjoy the same benefits as Commonwealth Honors students

Join Us

Complete our online Departmental Honors application in your sophomore or junior year. Most students complete Departmental Honors in three semesters.

HONORS THESIS

A REWARDING EXPERIENCE

The culmination of the Honors Program is your honors thesis, a research or creative project of your choice. You have the invaluable opportunity to work with a faculty mentor on your thesis project over a semester or a year.

Students frequently say the honors thesis was their most rewarding experience at BSU. They appreciate receiving one-on-one mentoring from a faculty member, immersing themselves in an area of study they love and producing an exemplary sample of their work for competitive job opportunities or graduate school.

Former BSU soccer player Caitlin Rowley has had a lifelong love of animals. The political science graduate supports the Endangered Species Act and legislation that protects farm animals from abuse and advocates for pet rescue and farm sanctuaries. When it came time to choose a topic for her honors thesis, Caitlin knew she'd research and write about the legislative and economic issues around farm-animal welfare.



TRANSFER PATHWAYS

Students who transfer to Bridgewater are welcome to join the Honors Program. See the various pathways available to you:

- **Transferring with no previous honors experience?** No previous honors experience is required. If you have at least two semesters left before graduation, you can join Departmental Honors in your major.
- **Member of an Honors Program at your previous institution?** If you received a grade of B or better in previous honors courses that transferred to BSU, we will apply them to BSU's Honors Program. Email a copy of your transcript to honorsprogram@bridgew.edu or bring it to Maxwell Library, Room 330, and we'll direct you toward either Commonwealth or Departmental Honors.
- **MassTransfer and Commonwealth Honors Transfer?** If you completed a Commonwealth Honors-accredited program at another Massachusetts public college or university, you'll seamlessly transfer into BSU's Honors Program. Email a copy of your transcript to honorsprogram@bridgew.edu or bring it to Maxwell Library, Room 330.

“I transferred from Massasoit Community College and immediately joined the biophysics laser lab at BSU. I have developed the skills and background necessary to perform research on prospective anticancer drugs. I have been studying a DNA binding drug using optical tweezers, a scientific instrument used to trap tiny objects with a highly focused laser.”

Adam Jabak
Physics and chemistry
double major



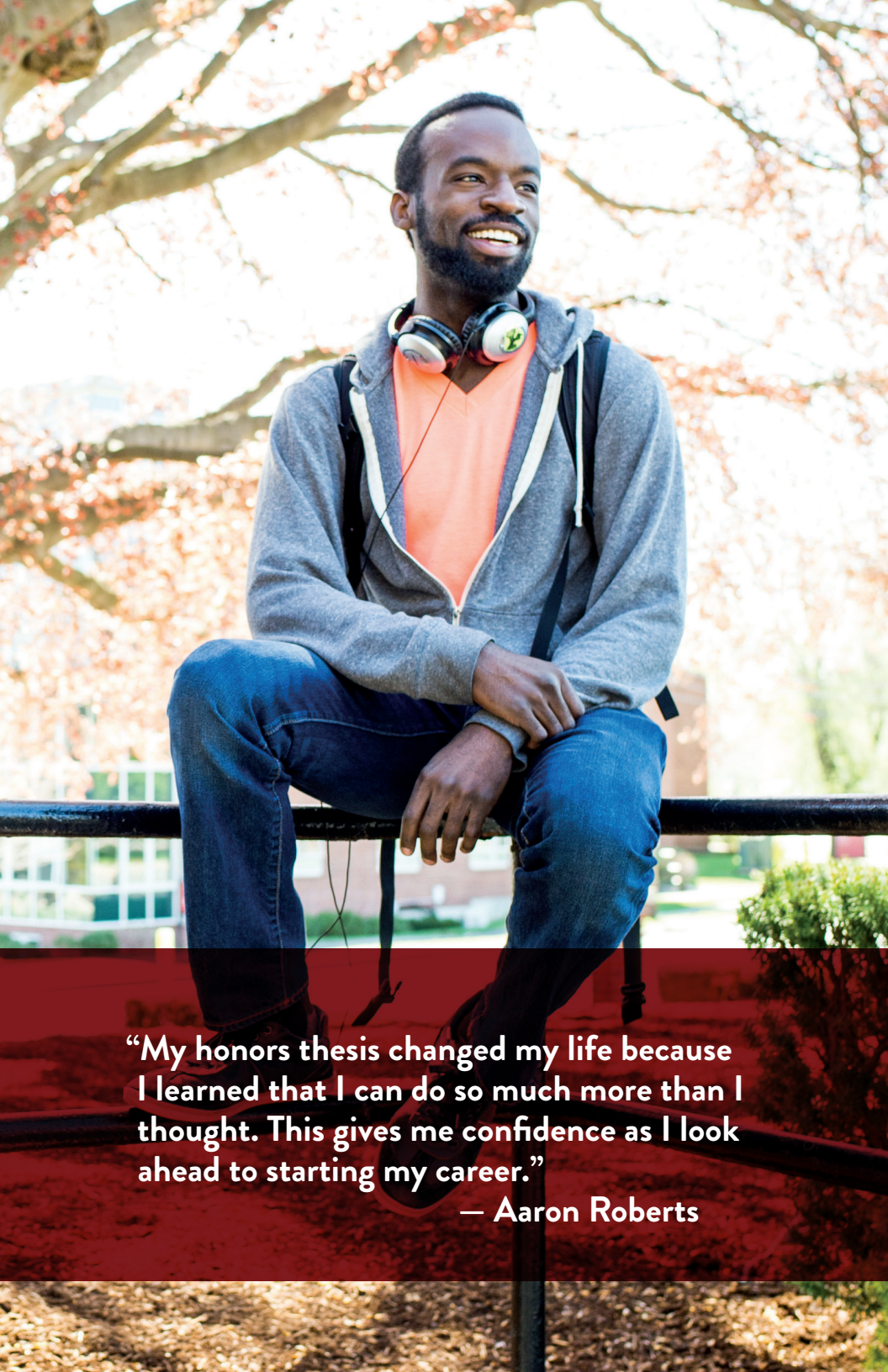
TRANSFORMATIVE **LEARNING**

Honors students at Bridgewater State University have access to an honors lounge, computer lab with free printing and welcoming staff members in the Center for Transformative Learning in Maxwell Library, Room 330. The center is a hub for multiple high-impact opportunities at BSU, connecting honors students to undergraduate research, national fellowships, leadership and community-based opportunities, research internships and more.

For more information, contact
honorsprogram@bridgew.edu or **508.531.1378**

To learn more, visit **bridgew.edu/honors**

Facebook: **facebook.com/BSUHonors**
Instagram: **@BSUHonors**



“My honors thesis changed my life because I learned that I can do so much more than I thought. This gives me confidence as I look ahead to starting my career.”

— Aaron Roberts

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