

# UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Academic Honors

## I. Introduction

There is no introduction for this policy.

## II. Policy Statement

### CHANCELLOR'S LIST

The Chancellor's List recognizes undergraduate degree-seeking students with outstanding records of academic performance. To qualify for the Chancellor's List during the fall or spring semester, a full-time student must earn a grade point average of at least 3.8 in 12 or more semester hours of credit graded A, B, or C, with no grade less than C. A part-time student must earn a combined fall and spring grade point average of at least 3.8 in 12 or more semester hours of credit graded A, B, or C, with no grade less than C. To qualify for the Chancellor's List as a part-time student, a student must enroll on a part-time basis in both fall and spring semesters in the same academic year. Students who receive the grade of AU, H, or P are not excluded from recognition as long as 12 hours are completed with A, B, or C. Students who receive the grade of D, F, I, NR, or N are not eligible for recognition. Chancellor's List recognition appears on the student's academic record (official transcript).

### DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List recognizes undergraduate degree-seeking students with superb records of academic performance. To qualify for the Dean's List during the Fall or Spring semester, a full-time student must earn a grade point average of at least 3.4 and not more than 3.79 in 12 or more semester hours of credit graded A, B, or C, with no grade less than a C. A part-time student must earn a combined Fall and Spring grade point average of at least 3.4 and not more than 3.79 in 12 or more semester hours of credit graded A, B, or C, with no grade less than C. To qualify for the Dean's List as a part-time student, a student must enroll on a part-time basis in both Fall and Spring semester in the same academic year.

Students who receive the grade of AU, H, or P are not excluded from recognition as long as 12 hours are completed with grades of A, B, or C. Students who receive the grade of D, F, I, NR, or N are not eligible for recognition. Dean's List recognition appears on the student's academic record (official transcript).

### GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION

Students may earn undergraduate degrees at different levels of distinction: Cum Laude ("With Honor"), Magna Cum Laude ("With Great Honor"), and Summa Cum Laude ("With Highest Honor"). Each of the undergraduate degrees is awarded Cum Laude when the graduating student's cumulative grade point average is 3.4 or more but less than 3.7, Magna Cum Laude when it is at least 3.7 but less than 3.9, and Summa Cum Laude when it is at least 3.9. To be eligible to graduate with distinction, a student must have a grade point average computed on at least 48 semester hours of credit completed in residence at UNC Charlotte.

## III. Definitions

- **GPA (Grade Point Average)** – The grade point average for an undergraduate student is determined by adding all accumulated quality points together, and then dividing by the total number of GPA hours the student has attempted, excluding those for which the student received a grade of I, IP, W, H, P, AU, or N. In computing the grade point average, only those credits attempted at UNC Charlotte or through the Charlotte Area Educational Consortium are included. See the [GPA Calculator](#).
- **Semester or Term** – A period of study of approximately 16 weeks, usually half of the academic year (i.e., fall and spring semesters). The fall semester begins in August and the spring semester begins in January at UNC Charlotte. There are summer terms as well: one ten-week and two five-week terms.
- **Transcript** – A list of all the courses a student has taken [at UNC Charlotte](#) with the grades that the student earned in each course. [A transcript is an exact and complete record of a student's academic history.](#) The University requires a high school transcript when a student applies for admission. ~~Additionally, after earning a college degree, some employers may require a copy of a candidate's university transcript.~~

## IV. Policy Contact(s)

- **Authority:** Faculty Council
- **Responsible Office:** Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
- **Additional Contact(s):** n/a

## V. History

- **Revised:** February 21, 2013
  - Dean's List qualifications were defined more clearly with a distinction between full-time and part-time student recognition.
- **Revised:** May 2, 2012
  - Effective with the December 2012 graduating class and beyond, the Graduation with Distinction levels changed as listed below:
    - Summa Cum Laude from 4.0 GPA to above 3.9 GPA
    - Magna Cum Laude from 3.8-4.0 GPA to 3.7-3.9 GPA
    - Cum Laude from 3.4-3.8 GPA to 3.4-3.7 GPA
- **Approved:** April 3, 1980

## VI. Related Policies, Procedures and Resources

There are no Related Policies, Procedures and Resources for this policy.

## VII. Frequently Asked Questions

- **Which students are covered under this policy?**  
This policy applies to all undergraduate students at UNC Charlotte.
- **Can I graduate with distinction if I am a distance education student at UNC Charlotte?**  
To graduate with distinction at UNC Charlotte you must have the required grade point average as outlined by the above policy and have earned 48 hours of credit completed in residence at UNC Charlotte. The policy applies to all UNC Charlotte degree-seeking students, whether enrolled in classes on campus or online.
- **Can I be placed on the Chancellor's or Dean's List if I am a distance education student at UNC Charlotte?**  
To qualify for the Chancellor's or Dean's List at UNC Charlotte you must have the required grade point average as determined in the policy above. The policy applies to all UNC Charlotte degree-seeking students, whether enrolled in classes on campus or online.
- **When does the change passed by Faculty Council on May 2, 2012, take effect?**  
On May 2, 2012, the Faculty Council passed a change to the grade point average levels necessary to graduate with distinction. This change is effective beginning with those graduating in December 2012 and their transcripts and diplomas will reflect the change. (NOTE: The information printed in the Commencement program is based on the previous semester's grade point average.)