

## Barrett, The Honors College Overview and Requirements

[Barrett, The Honors College](#) provides an augmented academic experience, inside and outside the classroom. The honors curriculum shapes students into lifelong learners, problem solvers and active citizens in a democratic society. Curriculum is designed to inspire intellectual curiosity through:

- small classes and seminars that foster meaningful connections with professors and peers
- multidisciplinary courses that encourage diverse perspectives and creative approaches to current challenges
- development of essential critical reading, effective writing and public speaking skills

The core honors seminars special topics courses are taught by [Barrett faculty fellows](#) who specialize in honors pedagogy. Through academic partnerships with every college at ASU, Barrett students have access to honors-specific courses, honors enrichment contracts, and undergraduate research, thesis and internship opportunities.

### Barrett admission

After applying to ASU, students submit a separate application for Barrett, The Honors College. The application is free, and there are multiple admission entry points for students.

[Lower-division entry](#): Students who begin Barrett in their first year of college are required to complete the HON 171 and HON 272 The Human Event sequence, defend and submit an approved honors thesis, and earn a total of 36 honors credit hours (18 of which must be for upper-division, 300+ level courses) with a minimum ASU cumulative GPA of 3.25 upon graduation.

[Upper-division entry](#): Students who begin Barrett midway through their undergraduate career are required to complete HON 370 The History of Ideas, defend and submit an approved honors thesis, and earn a total of 21 upper-division honors credit hours with a minimum ASU cumulative GPA of 3.25 upon graduation.

[Barrett Online](#): ASU Online students admitted to Barrett Online are required to complete HON 370 The History of Ideas, defend and submit an approved honors thesis, and earn a total of 21 honors credit hours with a minimum ASU cumulative GPA of 3.25 upon graduation.

[Transfer students](#): Barrett, The Honors College recognizes the outstanding opportunities provided to students who choose to participate in an honors program as part of their Arizona community college experience. As such, Barrett features an adjusted graduation requirement from 21 to 18 honors credit hours for transfer students who meet all of the following criteria:

1. satisfy the transfer student definition as set by the Arizona Board of Regents: “a student who has attended one or more colleges/universities and has completed 12 or more transferable college or university credits post-high school graduation”
2. meet all eligibility requirements for Barrett upper-division entry or Barrett Online enrollment
3. apply to Barrett and receive a positive admission decision for Barrett as an upper-division or online student
4. have graduated from the honors program of an Arizona community college before Barrett enrollment

All ASU university degree requirements must be met and posted for the Barrett Honors designation to post to student transcripts. This applies for all admission entry points into Barrett.

### **Honors signature courses**

All Barrett students are required to complete a series of honors signature courses and seminars, taught by Barrett's expert honors faculty fellows.

For students entering Barrett as lower-division students, the series includes a two-semester sequence: HON 171 and HON 272: The Human Event. This interdisciplinary seminar enables students to explore key social and intellectual movements in philosophy, history, literature, religion, science, social science and art throughout human history while building critical thinking, discussion and argumentative writing skills.

Students who join Barrett as upper-division or online students complete the one-semester course HON 370: History of Ideas. In this course, the honors faculty fellow chooses texts based on a central theme, and students dive into rich discussions and in-depth analysis, with a continued focus on critical thinking and writing.

### **Honors thesis**

The [Barrett honors thesis](#) is the culmination of the honors educational journey. It offers students the distinct opportunity to collaborate closely with faculty while making a meaningful contribution to their field of study. Through the thesis, students showcase their ability to design, execute, analyze and effectively present their project.

Students typically enroll in departmental courses numbered 492 and 493 for thesis work under the supervision of their ASU faculty thesis director. Passing credit hours in 492 and 493 courses count as upper-division honors credit hours for Barrett students.

Students may select their own thesis topic and faculty thesis director within or outside their academic majors. Additionally, students may participate in [honors thesis pathways programs](#). An honors thesis pathway is a structured opportunity for those who prefer more support to develop a thesis, submit a prospectus, hold a thesis defense and submit a final thesis. Thesis pathway variations include the following:

- A cohort of students who are all working on thesis projects based on a particular theme or objective (e.g., science and society, screenwriting, global engagement). One professor acts as the thesis director for all projects, and the group meets regularly to check in on each person's progress.
- Turning select honors seminar courses (HON 394) into an honors thesis with approval from the professor teaching the course. In this case, students take a special topics class one semester and then complete thesis 493 credit the following semester with that professor on a topic related to the course.
- A cohort of students all working on their own individual thesis projects with the same thesis director. These groups meet regularly to learn how to complete a thesis and to support one another through successes and challenges.

Required thesis project elements include a thesis committee, approved thesis prospectus, thesis defense form, formal thesis defense event, and the final thesis work (approved by the thesis committee), which must be submitted to the Barrett Thesis Digital Repository.

### **Honors credit hours and academic opportunities**

Students are responsible for earning the required number of honors credit hours. In addition to HON prefix courses and the thesis, they may earn honors credit by obtaining a grade of “C” or “Y” through participation in:

- honors sections
- honors enrichment contracts
- honors special topics courses
- internship, teaching assistant and research credit
- honors study abroad programs
- graduate-level (500) coursework

### **Honors progress and support**

At Barrett, every student is paired with a [dedicated honors advisor](#), ensuring personalized guidance throughout their academic journey. Honors advising is required each year to make sure Barrett students are supported in achieving academic success, learning about exclusive honors opportunities and making progress toward their goals. In addition to the honors advisor, students have a major advisor from their academic department and a [faculty honors advisor](#), which is a distinct Barrett benefit. The faculty honors advisors are experts in the academic disciplines at ASU and serve as a bridge between students' academic fields and the honors experience. Faculty honors advisors are invaluable resources, offering advice on academic opportunities and graduate school, career guidance, and support for the honors thesis. With this team of advisors, students have exceptional academic support to make the most of their time at Barrett and ASU.

Academic questions may be directed to [Barrettadvising@asu.edu](mailto:Barrettadvising@asu.edu).

## Lower-Division Curriculum

### 6 credit hours

The human event

### 6 credit hours

Honors thesis

### 24 credit hours

Honors enrichment contracts

Honors sections

HON topic courses

Internships and applied experiences

Undergraduate research

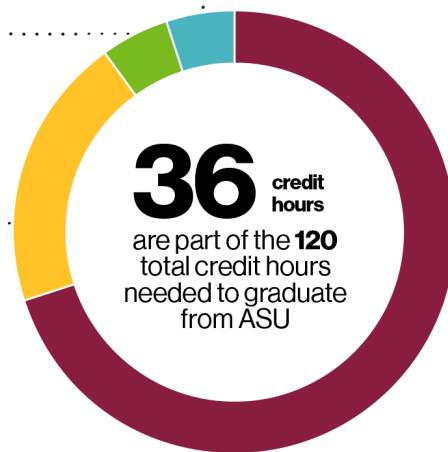
Teaching assistant and peer leadership

Barrett study abroad

Graduate-level courses

### Remaining credit hours

Degree requirements



Advisors recommend earning 9-12 credit hours per year

## Upper-Division Curriculum

### 3 credit hours

History of ideas

### 6 credit hours

Honors thesis

### 12 credit hours

Honors enrichment contracts

Honors sections

HON topic courses

Internships and applied experiences

Undergraduate research

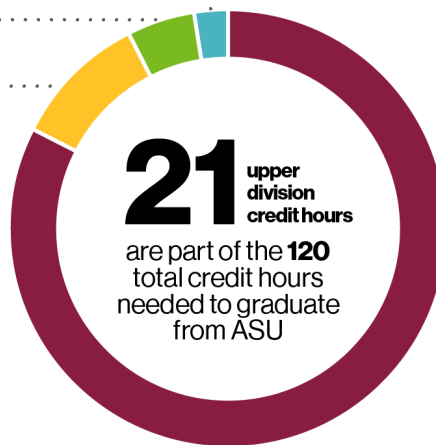
Teaching assistant and peer leadership

Barrett study abroad

Graduate-level courses

### Remaining credit hours

Degree requirements



Advisors recommend earning 9-12 credit hours per year

# Barrett Online Curriculum

## 3 credit hours

History of ideas

## 6 credit hours

Honors thesis

## 12 credit hours

Honors enrichment contracts

Honors sections

HON topic courses

Internships and applied experiences

Undergraduate research

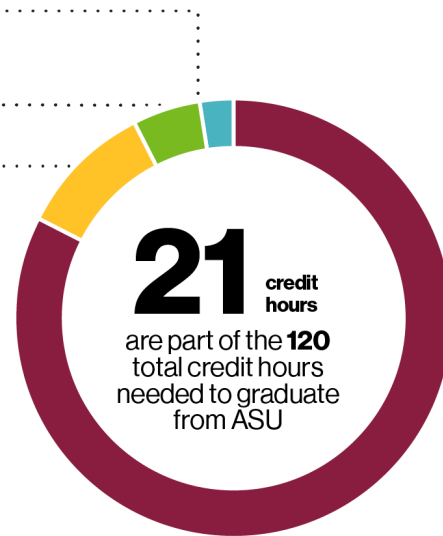
Teaching assistant and peer leadership

Barrett study abroad

Graduate-level courses

## Remaining credit hours

Degree requirements



Advisors recommend earning 9-12 credit hours per year