

Honours Eligibility and Application Process: 2023-2024

DEADLINES AND REQUIREMENTS

Application Deadline:

The deadline is **May 10th, 2023**.

All Students Require:

- A B+ in NESC/PSYO 2000* (Note: B required for students who started at Dal prior to Fall 2019).
- An A- average in the last six PSYO or NESC courses (not counting 1000-level or NESC/PSYO 2000*). See below for further instructions on which courses count as part of the six.
- Current departmental requirements for the Honours programs found in the following Academic Calendar sections: [NESC Concentrated Honours](#), [NESC Combined Honours](#), [PSYO Concentrated Honours](#), [PSYO Combined Honours](#).
 - Students can run a “what if” degree audit to gauge their progress toward Honours requirements, even if they are not enrolled in the Honours program. Instructions for how to do so are available [here](#).
 - Your degree audit may show slightly different Honours requirements than those listed in the current Academic Calendar. This is because changes to program requirements are grandfathered in; you are governed by the requirements that were in effect when you began at Dalhousie. Please contact an [Honours Coordinator](#) or email pnugpc@dal.ca, with questions if you notice differences between your degree audit’s Honours requirements and those listed in the Academic Calendar links above.
- A supervisor to agree to supervise their Honours (and sign the departmental application form).
- To graduate with Honours, courses that are counted towards the Honours program requirements must be a minimum grade of C. This is a university level requirement.

**NESC 2007 is equivalent to PSYO/NESC 2000.*

Please note that a minimum grade of B- will be required in 4901 (fall term of Honours) in order to continue into 4902 (winter term of Honours).

Please see below for information on admission for transfer students and for students returning to Dalhousie. Applications from students who have been on exchange will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Previous Dalhousie Students (Honours Conversion):

Students can apply to complete an **Honours Conversion** after the end of their Dalhousie Psychology/Neuroscience degree (BA or BSc). Please note that **only courses taken within the last 10 years** can be considered towards admission into an Honours conversion and only students with psychology or neuroscience degrees from Dalhousie are eligible.

For admission to Dalhousie, students must consult with the Registrar's Office about returning as a special undergraduate student. It is not possible to complete a degree at another university and simply do an "Honours Conversion" at Dalhousie.

Transfer Students:

Students transferring from other institutions are required to complete **at least one full year** (i.e., Fall and Winter term) of study at Dalhousie and to accumulate **six** (or more) one term 2000/3000/4000-level Dalhousie Psychology/Neuroscience classes before seeking admission to the Honours Program. They must also obtain credit for all Honours prerequisites.

It is HIGHLY recommended that any transfer student interested in the Honours program, contact a Faculty Advisor as soon as possible (ideally, before transferring) to ensure they have (or will have) all necessary requirements.

CALCULATING THE A- AVERAGE IN THE LAST SIX COURSES

As long as you have received the required grade in **NESC/PSYO 2000*** (see Deadlines and Requirements) and have secured a supervisor, admittance into the Honours program requires an A- average in program-required courses. Using the table below, an A- would be **zero**, and you need 0 or higher for acceptance. For example, if your last six counted courses were B+, A-, A, B, A+, A, you would be admitted (assuming you have a supervisor) because $(-1) + 0 + 1 + (-2) + 2 + 1 = 1$.

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
Numerical Conversion	+2	+1	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7

Which courses are counted?

- The six, most recent, eligible courses (i.e., excluding 1000-level and NESC/PSYO 2000*) are used to calculate the A- requirement. For both NESC and PSYO students, cross-listed NESC/PSYO courses would count as eligible NESC or PSYO courses, respectively.
 - **For NESC students**, the six most recent NESC courses are used to calculate the A- requirement, but **BIOL 2020** and **PSYO 2501** are included (if among the six most recent courses) because they are required courses for the NESC program.
 - **For PSYO students**, the six most recent PSYO courses are used to calculate the A- requirement.
- If there is more than one course that **can** count within the same semester, the course with the higher grade will be used.
- Courses spanning two terms (e.g., PSYO/NESC 3011/3012 or PSYO/NESC 3100/3101) will be counted as two of these six. For example, a grade of A in Independent Research (3100/3101) would count as two A's when calculating the A- requirement.
- Summer courses taken the summer before a September start of Honours **cannot** be considered in the calculation (e.g., Summer 2023 courses cannot count toward admission for students

applying to begin Honours in Fall 2023). Earlier summer courses (e.g., Summer 2022) may be included.

**NESC 2007 is equivalent to PSYO/NESC 2000.*

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

In Psychology & Neuroscience, students first apply to the **Department** (STEP 1). After acceptance has been processed, students will work with the Honours Coordinators to complete the formal application form for the **Registrar's Office** (STEP 2).

STEP 1. Department Application:

Students apply to the program to the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience for admission through an ONLINE MS Forms application that is specific to [psychology](#) or [neuroscience](#).

The form will **OPEN** on **April 3rd, 2023**, and **CLOSE** on **May 10th, 2023**. This is a firm deadline and failure to apply by this deadline may result in denied admission.

Please note that there is no 'cap' to the number of students admitted, although program capacity each year is limited by the number of students that eligible supervisors are able to take on. For this reason, finding a supervisor is a crucial requirement for admission.

The form requires students to provide the following information:

- Student name, ID number, email
- Honours program type: **NESC Concentrated Honours, NESC Combined Honours, PSYO Concentrated Honours, or PSYO Combined Honours**
- Name of confirmed supervisor
 - Supervisors **CANNOT** confirm until **March 1st of the application year**, at the earliest, but conversations can happen earlier and are encouraged.
 - Supervisors **MUST** email the PSYO or NESC Honours Coordinator to confirm supervision
- Details of proposed project (consult with supervisor)
 - It is possible to change/edit/amend project details after the deadline, but this gives the Honours Coordinators an understanding of the proposed project and ensures students and supervisors have discussed a plan.
- Unofficial transcript from Dalhousie
 - Transfer students must additionally provide transcript(s) from all previous institutions (official if possible).

STEP 2. Registrar's Application:

This step is completed after being admitted to Honours by the Department of Psychology & Neuroscience. The application is due early September of your 4th (or Honours) year. You will work with the Honours Coordinators the summer prior to Honours to complete this.