Academic Honors in Writing (AHW) is a program designed to foster and reward excellence in undergraduate writing. At commencement, selected graduating seniors will be honored for their superior writing skills. Both the commencement program and the students’ transcripts will acknowledge this prestigious achievement. Such an honor will be a matter of personal pride for the recipients and will also be of great interest to prospective employers. Academic Honors in Writing, then, reaffirms the central place of written expression in the undergraduate university experience.

Eligibility

All seniors who will graduate in December 2014, May 2015, or July 2015 are eligible to apply. Applicants are not limited to members of the Honors College.

Selection

Applicants should submit to their major departments—a portfolio of class-related writing consisting of 30-35 pages (roughly 8000 words), which demonstrates a sustained excellence in writing. This collection should include at least one sample which illustrates the student’s ability to write and think about concepts central to his or her major field of study. Applicants should submit original papers from classes, in either WORD or pdf format. If applicants submit work other than originals, they must attach a note or email from the appropriate instructor verifying that the work is class related. Departments will then choose department finalists. From this pool, the university Academic Honors in Writing Committee will select university finalists, who will write a common essay on a topic of general interest. Based on the portfolios and the common essays, the AHW Committee will select students to receive the designation Academic Honors in Writing.

Timetable

12/5/2014  Deadline to submit portfolios (with required cover sheet) to the department liaison faculty Representative, Dr. Diana Saiki, desaiki@bsu.edu

1/16/2015  Deadline for department liaisons to submit portfolios of department finalists to AHW Coordinator.

February 2015  Selection of university finalists and notification of common essay procedures (by March 1)

Early March 2015  University finalists write the common essay

Late March 2015  Selection of recipients: official announcement of the awards at the Senior Recognition Dinner.

For further information, contact

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