

# ACADEMIC HONORS

---

**Approved by:** Academic Affairs

**History:**

**Related Policies:**

**Related Forms, Procedures and References:**

**For Questions Contact:** Chair of Honors Committee | 414.382.6303 | [patti.varga@alverno.edu](mailto:patti.varga@alverno.edu)

---

At Alverno, students are nominated for honors by their major discipline faculty and their support discipline faculty following a review of their academic work. The Honors Program acknowledges undergraduate service-minded scholars. The criteria for honors are centered on two broad categories, academic excellence and service excellence. These two categories are rooted in the philosophy underlying the Alverno curriculum, which effectively integrates academic achievement with professional and personal life. Please visit the Catalog (<https://catalog.alverno.edu/college-information/academic-policies-procedures/>) for more information.

## Honors Ceremony

A ceremony for undergraduate students receiving academic honors is held prior to each December and May Commencement. This ceremony is coordinated out of the Office of Academic Affairs.

## Stoles and Cords (worn at Commencement)

Alverno graduates may choose to wear stoles and/or cords that honor their cultural heritage or academic journey, including:

- Asian heritage stole - purchased by student to honor Asian heritage
- Kente stole - purchased by student to honor African heritage
- Sarape stole - purchased by student to honor Latinx heritage
- International or study abroad stole - purchased by student to honor countries of origin or where they studied
- Stole of gratitude - purchased by student to bestow to a loved one as a token of gratitude
- Athletic stole - provided by Athletic Department for eligible student-athletes
- Burgundy Cord - denotes a Doherty Scholar, provided by Center for Academic Excellence
- Dark Green Cord - denotes a New Futures in Science and Mathematics Scholar, provided by NSMT department
- Purple and White Cord - signifies membership in Sigma Theta Tau, an international nursing honor society, provided by Nursing
- Royal blue cord - denotes a Promise Scholar, provided by Advising