



VARDHAMAN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

(AUTONOMOUS)

Affiliated to JNTUH, Approved by AICTE, Accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade, ISO 9001:2015 Certified
Kacharam, Shamshabad, Hyderabad – 501218, Telangana, India

Academic Regulations for B. Tech. with Honours Program **(with effect from academic year 2022-2023)**

1. Introduction

An Honours degree typically refers to a higher level of academic achievement in the major area. Students having good academic record can enhance their knowledge and skills in wide range of specializations to enhance their employability and research opportunities by pursuing additional courses apart from their regular degree program.

2. Objectives

The key objectives of offering B. Tech. with Honours program are:

- To expand the domain knowledge of the students laterally and vertically.
- To increase the employability of undergraduate students with expanded knowledge in one of the core engineering disciplines.
- To provide an opportunity to students to pursue their higher studies in wider range of specializations.

3. Eligibility conditions of the students for the Honours degree

1. A student can opt for B.Tech. degree with Honours, if she/he passed all subjects in first attempt in all the semesters till the results announced and maintaining 7.5 or more CGPA.
2. If a student fails in any registered course of either B. Tech. or Honours in any semester of four years' program, he/she will not be eligible for obtaining Honors degree. He will be eligible for only B. Tech. degree
3. Prior approval of mentor and Head of the Department for the enrolment into Honours program, before commencement of III year I Semester (V Semester), is mandatory.
4. If more than 30% of the students in a branch fulfil the eligibility criteria (as stated above), the number of students given eligibility should be limited to 30%. The criteria to be followed for choosing 30% candidates in a branch may be the CGPA secured by the students till II year I semester.
5. The department concerned should be preferably NBA accredited and shall offer at least one M. Tech. Program.
6. Successful completion of 20 credits earmarked for honours program with at least 7.5 CGPA along with successful completion of 160 credits earmarked for regular B. Tech. Program with at least 7.5 CGPA and passing all subjects in first attempt gives the eligibility for the award of B. Tech. (Honors) degree.
7. For CGPA calculation of B. Tech. course, the 20 credits of Honours program will not be considered.

4. Academic Regulations for B. Tech. Honours Degree

1. The weekly instruction hours, internal & external evaluation and award of grades are on par with regular 4-Years B. Tech. program.

2. For B. Tech with Honours program, a student needs to earn additional 20 credits (over and above the required 160 credits for B. Tech degree). The broad guidelines for the courses of Honours program, their respective credits weightage and semester-wise break-up of the course are enclosed as Annexure. All these 20 credits need to be completed in III year and IV year only.
3. After registering for the Honours programme, if a student is unable to pass all courses in first attempt and earn the required 20 credits, he/she shall not be awarded Honours degree. However, if the student earns all the required 160 credits of B. Tech., he/she will be awarded only B. Tech degree in the concerned branch.
4. There is no transfer of credits from courses of Honours program to regular B. Tech. degree course & vice versa.
5. These 20 credits are to be earned from the additional courses offered by the host department or from a closely related department or from the MOOCs platform.
6. For the courses selected under MOOCs platform, the following guidelines may be followed:
 - a) Prior to registration of MOOCs courses, formal approval of the courses, by the concerned standing committee of the institute is essential. The committee before the issue of approval considers the parameters like the institute / agency which is offering the course, syllabus, credits, duration of the programme and mode of evaluation etc.
 - b) Minimum credits for a MOOCs course must be equal to or more than the credits specified in the Honours course structure provided in Table 1.
 - c) Only Pass-grade/marks or above shall be considered for inclusion of grades in the Honours grade memo.
 - d) Any expenses incurred for the MOOCs courses are to be met by the students only.
7. The choice to opt/take the Honours program is purely on the choice of the students.
8. The student shall be given a choice of withdrawing all the courses registered and/or the credits earned for Honours program at any time; and in that case the student will be awarded only B. Tech. degree in the concerned branch on earning the required credits of 160.
9. The students of every branch can choose Honours program in their respective branches if they are eligible for the Honours program. A student who chooses an Honours program is not eligible to choose a Minor program and vice-versa.
10. The B. Tech. with Honours program shall be offered from the AY 2021-22 onwards. The students who are pursuing their III year I semester in the current academic year can register for the Honours program if they fulfil the eligibility criteria.
11. A student can graduate with Honours if he/she fulfils the requirements for his/her regular B. Tech. program as well as fulfils the requirements for Honours program.
12. The institute shall maintain a record of students registered and pursuing their Honours programs branch-wise. The same report needs to be sent to the University once the enrolment process is complete.
13. The department shall prepare the time-tables for each Honours program offered at their respective departments without any overlap/clash with other courses of study in their respective semesters.
14. Technical paper writing:
 - a) The student shall take up a problem/topic of engineering branches (inter-disciplinary nature) and apply the knowledge which they acquired while pursuing their engineering branch. It is expected to analyse, design and develop an application for the identified problem and write a technical paper/document.

Alternatively, the student i) shall identify a research topic, analyse the problem, carry out the experiments, write a technical paper and publish in /communicate for a Scopus indexed journal/any journal with decent reputation or ii) Demonstrate a talent/an idea/development of an innovative product.

- b) The evaluation shall be done by the same committee which is constituted for project evaluation, along with the final semester project work.
- c) The students should start exploration for the Technical Paper Writing immediately after the semester exams of III-II semester. Only the evaluation part shall be carried in IV- II semester.

5. Registration for the course in Honors program

1. At the beginning of each semester, just before the commencement of classes, students shall register for the courses which they wish to take in that semester.
2. The students should choose a course from the list against each semester (from Honours course structure) other than the courses they have studied/registered for regular B.Tech. programme. No course should be identical to that of the regular B. Tech. course. The students should take the advice of faculty mentors while registering for a course at the beginning of semester.
3. The number of courses to be registered in a semester for Honours degree is as depicted in the Table 1 along with regular semester courses.

Table 1. Courses and Credits for Honours Degree

#	Year/Semester	Course to be chosen	Number of Credits
1	III Year I Semester	Professional Elective – 1	3
2	III Year II Semester	Professional Elective – 2	3
3	III Year II Semester	Professional Elective – 3	3
4	IV Year I Semester	Professional Elective – 4	3
5	IV Year I Semester	Professional Elective – 5	3
6	IV Year II Semester	Professional Elective – 6	3
7	IV Year II Semester	Technical Report Writing	2
Total Credits			20

Note:

- i. Professional Elective (PE) course should be selected (which is not studied) from each Professional Electives list provided in regular B. Tech. course.
 - ii. Courses can be chosen as in above table.
4. The registration fee is to be paid by the students during the submission of application form for admission to Honours program subject to satisfying the eligibility conditions.
 5. A fee for late registration may be imposed as per the norms.