

## Latin Honors FAQ:

Starting in May 2009, all graduating seniors are eligible for Latin honors designations on diplomas and transcripts if his/her complete academic record shows at least 54 calculable credits at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and meets one or more of the following criteria:

### New Latin honors for all students:

- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 5% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, then he/she will receive the degree *summa cum laude*.
- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 10% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, but not among the top 5%, then he/she will receive the degree *magna cum laude*.
- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 25% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, but not among the top 10%, then he/she will receive the degree *cum laude*.

NOTE: For all students, including Commonwealth Honors College, admitted Spring 2009 or earlier and who graduate within 5 years, *cum laude* will be based on a 3.200 GPA and 45 calculable credits. Students admitted after Spring 2009, *cum laude* will change to the top 25% GPA as above.

- At the start of the fall semester, the Registrar will post on their website the GPA needed to secure a place in the top 5%, 10%, and 25% in each school or college, based on the average of the previous three years' graduating classes (see below).

### For Commonwealth Honors College students:

- See Commonwealth Honors College (<http://www.honors.umass.edu>) for the criteria for Departmental Honors and for these new distinctions:  
*Commonwealth Honors College Scholar with greatest distinction*  
*Commonwealth Honors College Scholar with great distinction*  
*Commonwealth Honors College Scholar with distinction*  
*Commonwealth Honors College Scholar*  
(You may also call 413-545-2483 for an advising appointment.)

NOTE: For Commonwealth Honors College students, admitted by Spring 2009 or earlier and who graduate within 5 years *magna cum laude* will be based on a 3.500 GPA and *summa cum laude* will be based on a 3.800 GPA. Students admitted after Spring 2009, will be subject to the new Latin honors as stated above. If a Commonwealth Honors College student meets both criteria they will receive the degree with honors of both types—for example, "B.A. *magna cum laude*, Commonwealth Honors College with greatest distinction."

<b>Latin Honors GPA's For Graduates Admitted Spring 2009 or Before/for September 2011, February 2012, May 2012 Conferrals</b>			
<b>School/College</b>	<b>Cum Laude</b>	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>
College of Engineering	3.200	3.800	3.891
College of Humanities & Fine Arts	3.200	3.855	3.930
Isenberg School of Management	3.200	3.769	3.862
College of Natural Sciences	3.200	3.816	3.907
School of Nursing	3.200	3.900	3.954
School of Public Health & Health Sciences	3.200	3.797	3.882
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences	3.200	3.813	3.906
BDIC, UWW, BGS	3.200	3.813	3.906

<b>Latin Honors GPA's For Graduates Admitted After Spring 2009/for September 2011, February 2012, May 2012 Conferrals</b>			
<b>School/College</b>	<b>Cum Laude</b>	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>
College of Engineering	3.534	3.800	3.891
College of Humanities & Fine Arts	3.662	3.855	3.930
Isenberg School of Management	3.567	3.769	3.862
College of Natural Sciences	3.588	3.816	3.907
School of Nursing	3.799	3.900	3.954
School of Public Health & Health Sciences	3.536	3.797	3.882
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences	3.534	3.813	3.906
BDIC, UWW, BGS	3.534	3.813	3.906